

Takami no Kago

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Translation: [Nega Translations](#)

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Chapter 52

Today is Frey's second day of intensive training, there is also the appointment with the half-demon Latia.

Though there was the plainly suspicious fellow named Evin, but right now she was the only one that was caught on the detector.

I should ascertain carefully without relaxing my guard.

I'm waiting for Latia in the Adventure Guild. Ayla and the others are observing nearby.

To Zir, I asked her to monitor Evin, who was apparently still at the lord's castle (nearby).

"There seem to be nothing at all."

"Is there anything?"

I was sitting on a bench and murmuring to myself when Latia finally arrived.

She hurriedly greeted me and her eyes twinkled when she saw Ruby at my feet.

"No, it's nothing. Recently, it seems to be dangerous because a huge bear monster appeared."

I put out some feelers about the Silver Grizzly. Though Evin subjugated it, there might be some kind of reaction.

"Is that so? Sounds scary. You should not go outside of town alone."

There doesn't seem to be any reaction for the Silver Grizzly. Rather, on the other hand, she seemed to be deeply interested in Ruby.
No, this must be acting, I should not relax my guard.

"It's fine. An excellent adventurer has already defeated it."

"That's a relief, I actually wanted to go and pick medical herbs in the forest."

Latia seems to be really relieved. *It's an important source of income!!*
She grasped her fist emphasizing it.

And then, she finally touched Ruby. *Fuwawaa~* she was touching Ruby while making a strange voice.

Then...

[Excellent you say, though I'm happy you said that, unfortunately, I'm not an adventurer.] (Evin)

The person who subjugated the Silver Grizzly, Evin, had appeared before my eyes. This was not that surprising since Zir contacted me with a whisper ghost some time ago.

"Is that so? Then, I'm sorry. So, if you aren't an adventurer what business do you have with the [Adventurer Guild]?"

"To receive the reward for the subjugation of the Silver Grizzly. I said it a little while ago, but because I'm not registered as a guild member, it takes time."

We had a look-out ghost with Evin from the beginning as he walked into this place, so I don't know whether what he said was true.
Evin, who appeared suddenly, looked blankly at Latia.
Are the two people irrelevant? While thinking so, I turn to Evin who was still fixedly looking at Latia.

"Um, are you acquainted?"
"No, it's our first time meeting."

That's really good, although Evin doesn't takes his eyes off of Latia.
Finally, Latia, unable to withstand his gaze, hides herself with Ruby behind me.

"You are scaring my friend, will you stop looking at her?"
"...Excuse me."

He finally remove his glance from Latia. However, he isn't leaving this place.

"What's the matter? Didn't you come here to receive the reward?"
"I thought of making some small talk before I go."
"I'm sorry we are busy at the moment. Latia, shall we go?"

We left the guild quickly, but he doesn't seem to have chased us.

"That person, was somewhat scary."

"Certainly, I wouldn't want to be stared at like that."

Today, I'm helping Latia with her job hunting.

"As expected the pickings are slim."

I don't know what to say when such a heavy topic is said openly.
I nod silently.

Latia found some part time work as a day labourer stocking goods at the Alchemist Guild.

Latia, in contrast to her appearance, was quickly putting the packed medicine vials from the wooden boxes onto the shelves.

I, also, joined in on the spur of the moment and participated in this heavy labor because I said Frank-san was my acquaintance. However, Latia seems to be working hard because they said they would consider a long-term employment based on the evaluation of today's work.

We were able to see through the work smoothly, but I started freaking when I saw the time was passed the lunch break.

"Lovely onee-san, will you play with me."

A man who made a pass at Latia had appeared. It seems like the novice alchemist is apparently a guy that is said to be the so called [Frivolous Man]. (TL: chara otoko) (EN: gaudy or flashy works too)
No way, to encounter this stereotypical frivolous man even though I've come to a different world.

"U-uh, I'm working."

"Hmm, fine. Ah, that's right, when work ends let's go together. I'll be here waiting~"

"S-such a thing, it is troublesome."

"Why? Why? It's fine right?"

Latia glances towards me asking for help. Though I thought it was a chance to ascertain whether she was a demon or not, it's too late, I can't desert Latia with her teary eyes.

Haa I sighed for a moment and began to help...

The frivolous alchemist guy let out a strange voice, he collapsed with his eyes rolled up with the white of his eyes showing.

“Ah! Again.”

Was the [Curse of the Half-demon] invoked?

However, I think the [Ulterior Motive] that this frivolous man held for Latia was seen from the beginning, but was that this power?

“With stocking goods, I thought I wouldn’t need to interact with people.”

Is that so, did you learn from previous failures to choose work where you interact with people as little as possible?

That said, a waitress is totally about customer service. Why did she choose such work when she is definitely a trouble magnet?

While thinking about various things, I approach the collapsed man and cured him of the abnormal status **[Coma]** with recovery magic.

Because I shine when curing with [Divine Protection], I cure him slowly with recovery magic.

Perhaps because of the continuous effect of the [Divine Protection of Light] I’m not shining.

Though I understood it somehow from Zir’s blood sucking, but it likely won’t shine for me because I haven’t entered an abnormal state.

Light comes out when curing an abnormal state. (EN: Okay this was a bit confusing, so basically a flash of light appears when he is actively using divine protection but the Divine Protection of Light is passive so there isn’t any light. And there’s no flash when using regular magic.)

I confirm that the **[Coma]** status has disappeared, then I explain the circumstances to Frank who heard the commotion.

“The customer apparently got too excited and collapsed.”

I nonchalantly spat out a lie. Although, it seems so to the people who can’t see status.

No, it can only be seen that way.

“Is that so, good work.”

The collapsed man was carried to the reception room, so Latia and me got some rest.

"U-uh Hibiki-san. What happened a little while ago, I'm sorry."

Of course, you can't deceive a person that was involved. Today, I don't know how many times it happened, [Is this acting?] while asking myself this question, I told Latia not to worry.

"For a long time people around me have collapsed. In the past it was only my family, then eventually it reached the point where my friends would collapse. Now, people collapse on first meeting me."

As for working as a waitress in this town, there seems to be a faint expectation that the effect might lesson if the environment changes.

"Because of that, I have caused trouble for this store."

"Well, don't worry about it."

A little more, I'll dispel your [Curse], I might have started to say that. That's maybe what she was aiming for.

Because we finished the remaining work after the break, we received today's payment. Frank handed today's payment directly.

"Latia, thank you for today. So, after this is it possible for you to come help about twice a week?"

"Y-yes, please."

An awkward one after all, was it because one person collapsed during the day? No, she's probably acting right now.

When evening approached the vicinity, we were already strolling about in the main street without aim.

"Today, I am really sorry."

"Ah, it's fine already."

I don't know anymore how many times she has thanked me. Are you still not satisfied? She looks around restlessly searching for something.

Whether she found what she was looking for I don't know, but she ran to a vendor with a bright face.

"U-uncle. Give me two of these."

The things she was holding in her hands were 2 cheap bracelets. Half of today's wage was blown off with these two.

"Here, Hibiki-san. This is a commemoration for today that I was able to make a friend and as thanks for helping me."

She wore one on her right hand and presented me with another.

"Oi, is it fine? Should you be using your precious salary for such a thing?"

"There is no such thing. This is a very very important thing." (TL: have to have two very.)

Moreover, that face. That face when she asked me to become her friend.

Is this really acting? Doesn't she simply just want a friend?

Should I dispel the [Curse] and introduce her to Alya and the others?

I don't know.

Therefore, I...

"Ah, thank you."

I received the bracelet without being able to say anything.

"Hibiki-san, will you be in the guild tomorrow?"

Tomorrow will be the final day for Frey's intensive training.

"No, I will not really be in town tomorrow."

"Is that so, then how about the day after tomorrow?"

Latia desperately tries to keep the connection with me. It isn't a wise policy to give out too much information. However...

"Right, so. The day after tomorrow, I think that I will be in the courtyard of the lord's castle in the morning."

If it is information about the duel there is no problem. It will not be me that will be fighting.

“W-will I be a bother if I come?”

“Ah, there is no problem with me so it’s fine.”

I approve it. When she shows that face, it is absolutely difficult to decline.

“That’s great!! Then, see you the day after tomorrow!!”

She ran off while waving her hand with the same smile from the day we met.

“Yep, see you the day after tomorrow.”

I answer as I wave my hand lightly.

“What are you doing, me?”

She was a [Half-demon].

Even if she wasn’t the demon who incited that necromancer guy, a different sort of trouble will unexpectedly come.

I couldn’t push her away.

It will be alright if it’s this much. I have yet to have any problems. If there is something I will settle it myself.

As it is such an idea slips away when my relationship with her has been deepened. (TL: deepen it more!! Kuku.)

“Master, is everything alright?”

Ayla anxiously talked to me.

I embrace Ayla hardly.

That’s right, being alone is lonely. Being alone is painful.

It was Ayla who buried that. Latia is also just asking for such an existence.

“The day after tomorrow, when the duel ends, I will dispel Latia’s [Curse].”

“Yes. Because being alone is lonely.”

Ayla seems to have noticed that I have worked myself up for Latia. Ayla, thank you, I told her my thanks and embraced her tightly again.

Chapter 53

The last day of Frey's intensive training. When I got up in the morning, some goblins including Musashi evolved.

Musashi evolved into a [Samurai Goblin], while the other goblins who helped me with ceramics evolved into [Artist Goblin].

As promised, I passed a sword to Musashi for his reward. It was given out from the many swords that were trial products that Trill-san made in order to create something like a kodachi for me. (EN: kodachi = short sword)

It was exactly perfect for Musashi who became the height of an average elite.

Moreover, Musashi acquired the **[Insight]** skill. (TL: could be mind's eye.) (EN: yeah, but I like insight better)

[Insight] is a good balanced skill that can be used for attack and evasion.

It wasn't a supernatural power, it could predict the trajectory of an attack based on the information until just before the opponent, what should the reaction be to how the opponent is going to perform an attack, in other words it was a skill to understand whether you defend or evade. All the artist goblins have the **[Ceramic Art]** skill. Thanks to this skill I don't have to rely on Amy alone to fire the pottery.

Well, it takes three artist goblins to do about the same work that Amy by herself could perform. (TL: Amy got replaced by Goblins....)

Now, about Frey, this fellow also obtained new skills.

[Friend of Goblins] and **[Metabolic Stimulation]**. (TL: poor Frey-chan)

[Friend of Goblins] skill was just what the name sounds like. Its effect was to understand what the goblins say somehow or another. (Raizu: Please stay as friends. Don't need goblins x human girl love story)

Certainly, their relationship was quite good. When I returned yesterday, I was surprised that she was chatting while eating dinner in a circle with the goblins.

Next, her status seems to be strengthened only a little when near goblins. Perhaps, I should take several goblins tomorrow as guards.

As for 【Metabolic Stimulation】, she seemed to have learned this by strengthening the body's resilience when recovery magic was used whenever she collapsed in the training. The effect was promoting self-healing and physical strength recovery by energy consumption (food). Though she becomes able to move about when using it, she gets terribly hungry as a result.

Because Frey was neither a slave or a subordinate monster, I could not use this skill. Next time, I should try continuously casting recovery magic on myself to see whether I can learn it.

"Now, though today is the last day, it would be better to fight against a human as much as possible."

The real thing was tomorrow. To prepare for it, you should fight with a fellow whose physique is close to his to get the feel for it. Including me, it was decided that Frey will carry out the final adjustments with Ayla.

"To start with, Ayla would you."

"Yes, please leave it to me."

Ayla and Frey faced off with each other.

"Then, begin!!"

With the start of the signal Ayla rushed to Frey. She might be able to close in before Frey can enter a position for interception. Frey wasn't fluttered by Ayla's sudden behavior, while stepping back one step she extended the distance which managed to widen the space in which she can swing her halberd. She aimed at Ayla with a side sweep. *Fwish* I heard a low sound caused from the wind that the halberd made. However, the tip of the halberd's blade passed right before Ayla who had already finished decelerating by pushing against the ground with both feet outstretched to the width of her shoulders.

When the halberd passed, Ayla quickly leaned over and re-accelerated.

"Haaaaaa"

Frey who had her posture broken from the full power swing of the halberd, twisted her body as she was and gave further pursuit. Ayla further dodges it by running through Frey's pursuit. She tried to create distance where the halberd won't reach in one go, and then reversed her body in an instant for close combat. However, Frey noticed Ayla's intention, she didn't allow her to approach easily. The sound from the halberd cutting the air was heard many times. So, several minutes have passed since the battle started, but the sound of a weapon was not heard. Ayla still has not even clashed blades with Frey yet and surpassed all the violent attacks of the halberd with evasion.

Naturally Frey also noticed, the interval between the sounds of the halberd's swing was reduced more and more.

However, Ayla had finally stopped her feet which were her biggest weapon and started to evade with the so called swayback posture.

The halberd was a very long weapon, its flaw was that sharp turns were not effective. The level of Ayla's evasion ability could be called abnormal. (TL: Roxane evasion!!)

From the beginning, I told Ayla to avoid Frey's attack as much as possible to show this to Frey.

Therefore, Ayla doesn't really attack or even use 【Hand of Protection】 which was a sword for defense.

In the long run, Frey's physical strength withered and Ayla won without attacking.

I gave her a potion which immediately revived her physical strength. It would be better not to use 【Metabolism Stimulation】 so much because it seems bad for the body.

Well, I can't really say whether potion recovery was good either.

In the first place, I don't know the average life expectancy for humans in this world. Naturally, there also seems to be the race called elves which can live for hundreds of years.

"Now then, next is me."

Frey and I faced each other. When our eyes met, Frey was frightened a little.

Well, that is also a considerable improvement during these 3 days, but still when I recall the match like that, I put a stop to remembering it by all means.

“Is it alright? Then, please begin.”

Normally, I overwhelm Frey using all my skills. However, Musashi’s 【Insight】skill will do rather nicely for this task.

“Frey, stop the habit of overswinging or it will become dangerous.”

“Even so, the swing from the halberd is certainly strong, but coordination is weak. Use more thrust.”

“Y-yeah.”

“The opponent, only has to strike to attack you. Have that in mind from the beginning.”

“I-is that so.”

In this way, I convey Frey’s useless points in detail.

She really listens to me obediently probably because I convey the bad points while making her have a bitter experience by catching her off guard.

The final sparring with me was finished. Lastly, I hand her some antidote pills just in case she suffers a poison attack.

“Listen, the antidote is an insurance. Don’t think that it will be possible to swallow it during the duel.”

“Understood. I’m sorry for everything.”

“Then return that gratitude. Incidentally, the punishment games haven’t ended yet either.”

“Yeah, I will surely repay this kindness. Even if I win this duel or I’m defeated.”

Though that was very admirable, since we’ve gone this far, I want her to win.

“For the time being, you can repay me by winning this duel.”

With this, all the preparations are in good order. The rest of the time will be spent slowly preparing for the duel.

Under my supervision in the goblins' village, the outdoor hot spring was constructed.

It was when we dug up material for making porcelain, due to the timing I utilized the hole effectively to construct an outdoor hot spring.

In other words, during these three days I've also had the field being prepared, and it is now complete today. For the heating of the water, the goblins I had left it to were the goblin mages.

Apparently, the goblin mages were quite active in the field. I heard they started the cultivation of plants that have magic for use as materials for various potions.

"Aaaa~. Such a good bath."

As I thought as a Japanese I wanted someday to find a solution for a bath. The satisfaction rating is different from only cleaning oneself with the towel and bathing in cold water.

The size of the bathtub was good. It seems that the goblin village spent approximately one day to accumulate the water to accommodate a bathtub with the length and breadth of 10m.

I must think of some remedy here. For the time being, I made the remaining normal goblins into goblin mages to turn on the water by magic.

If that's the case, how I will use the goblins, who use nothing but water magic, might become a problem on the battlefield.

Because the current goblin mages are fellows that can only use fire magic, it's questionable whether they can properly learn water magic. For the time being, it will be good to think about this later. I should be satisfied with this bath for now.

This time I'm by myself as a trial, but I'd like to enter with Ayla and the others eventually. The bath in the goblin village is required to be a mixed bath!!

Of course, after I'm done Ayla and the others can enter, then it will be opened to the goblins.

If they know the pleasantries in bathing, they will arbitrarily expand it and a second facility will be made.

And then, the outdoor mixed bath of the goblin village will someday become a sightseeing spot and then a big amusement facility!! (TL: goblins rape kita!!)

“Maybe it’s impossible~”

“What is?”

I turned back on being called, Frey, who had hid her body behind one towel, was standing there. As for the deep red face the cause was probably not just because of the hot water.

“Is it because you are a fool? You are a fellow who does such a cliched thing.”

Perhaps, she had probably come to return the favor for the intensive training. Frey had a surprised face and nodded when hearing that.

“Have you understood?”

“Yeah~, somehow?”

After seeing through such a thing, Frey yielded for a moment. She seemed cold and it was irresponsible of me to let her stand there naked, so I told her to get in the hot water and immerse herself.

Frey touched the water with the tip of her foot several times, then finally immersed herself in the hot water.

“Fuwaaaa~”

She had an amazing face that had become sodden. In this world where baths were not seen, but you still have that?

“There are stories of the luxury of soaking oneself in a great deal of hot water.”

“Do you normally not enter?”

“Flora-sama does not take baths. Though I’ve entered a sauna several times a week, it has not been heard of soaking the body in a place where hot water was accumulated.”

There might not be baths. Certainly, when I said bath to Ayla and the others it didn't seem to even ring a bell.

"And, you came here to return the favor?"

"Y-yeah."

Right now, Frey was sitting in the furthest place from me. Well, it's not so unnatural even if it did happen because I sat the furthest from the changing room.

Frey made up her mind and approached me. She sat next to me at a distance where her shoulder might or might not brush against me.

"Th-this is to repay the favor!!"

"I understand."

"No, you don't understand!!"

When I heard her explanation, she seems to want to say that this was being done not as a punishment game but as repayment.

"Is that so?"

I'm good with both, but it seems like it's an important thing for Frey. She was still saying various things, but as it was troublesome, I caught Frey's shoulder to draw her closer and rubbed her breasts. They were plump and felt good in their own way.

Frey tried to escape, but because her shoulder was held down, it was impossible.

"What happened? Didn't you come here to do this?

Frey falters. Of course, I have determined her readiness. There was no need to take off your clothes if it was just to the extent of washing my back.

"I'll stop if you hate it. Only, at that time, it'll be a bit difficult so could you call Ayla and others? I won't be able to calm down."

Because I held Frey's shoulder and stuck to her tightly, she rightly knows what kind of state I'm in very clearly.

“N-No, it is not.”

“Is that so? Then let’s continue. In order for you to do your best tomorrow, I’ll be as gentle as possible.”

“Y-yeah, please. Do so.”

Judging from the reaction, it must be her first time. Today, I put my emphasis in loving Frey without doing it til the end. It was not kindness. If she was in pain tomorrow, it will be impossible to fight and I will be troubled.

She was in a dreamy half-conscious state in the bathtub when I carried Frey, who could only let out [Ah~] and [Uu~], and took her along to her room.

Because there was still tomorrow, it would be a problem if she caught a cold. It’s similar to caring for a tool before a fight.

“Frey, when you win tomorrow’s duel I will do it until the end. I will make it more intense than today.”

I don’t know whether it was audible to Frey, but I said so while leaving the guest room which was used for Frey.

Though there was little explosive heat, but such a night was good every once in awhile. I returned to my room so that I might also have a restful sleep.

Chapter 54

That day of the duel, we visited the lord's castle. It was no longer early morning.

"You are late."

Evin was already in the square. The form of Flora wasn't visible.

"You did not decide the time in particular. There's no reason to criticize."

Frey answered Evin.

So, this was a duel between Frey and Evin. I also think I have gotten too deeply involved but it can't be changed.

"The young lady?"

"Well, we were together a minute ago, but she is a free-spirited lady, so it can't be helped."

In only a few days he has this manner of speaking of understanding Flora. As for this, Frey may lose her temper again.

"Is that so. Then, let's begin the duel as soon as the young lady returns."

My expectation was betrayed, Frey seems to be calm. Even Evin was also looking at Frey with a dubious expression.

This duel was to decide the knight for Flora. Since Flora wasn't here, it can't begin.

After what seems like a 15 minute wait, Flora came in while accompanied by Giren.

"Look, Miss Flora. Isn't everyone waiting for you?"

"Yes, however lord uncle, It can not be helped since I was drinking black tea."

(TL: ARGGG want to shove the damn tea up her cunt!!!!)

What to do Giren was shaking his head.

“I’m very sorry for making you wait.”

Giren started to apologize to me. But today I’m just an ordinary visitor.

“You don’t have to worry about it, I was concerned about the result of this duel so I only came of my own accord.”

“Is that so? However, you seemed to have taken care of that troublesome Frey-kun.”

“It’s what I wanted to do. Didn’t I say so? I look forward to this duel.”

“I see, and has anything been concluded about who the demon was yet?”

“...No, I’m sorry, but there is no information that I can report as of yet.”

“Is that so. I hear that you bought a great deal of [Anti-Demon Killer] at the church.”

“I’m a coward. That is provision to prevent me from being killed for the time being.”

“Hmph, well I am not requesting for the search of the demon from only you alone.”

“Is that so, I should have expected that much from you.”

Probably Evin was asked by Giren to search for demon.

Is this fellow really unrelated to the demon? To win over Giren, isn’t this state like a powder keg?

Well, I should evacuate the goblin village, Ayla, and the others for a short while when it seems to be really dangerous.

Still, if it seems to be unpleasant, I may go through the forest and return to Bureto. I may make a new village.

“Yeah? That remind me.”

Latia said she was also coming here today, but are you anywhere? I looked around lightly, but she was not found.

“Zir, where is Latia?”

“Yea, attend f’r a dram while.”

Zir was trying to obtain information from the ghost.

It wasn’t possible to connect with all the employed ghosts in real time.

“Strange. Thither wast nay answer from the apparition yond hath followed that lady.”

"Then, do you mean the ghost has been done in?"

"Hmm, that is correct. Because ghosts art hated, if 't be true tis hath found throughout the city, they shall beest subdu'd without question."

Maybe due to bad luck, it might have been killed by an adventurer who happened to pass by.

After such an event happened. There might not be a good impression with ghosts either.

"For now, I'll let you employ a new ghost and make them search."

I was told not to expect too much.

Well, it was a duel of those two who face each other in the open plaza.

The duel will begin anytime as long as Flora gives the signal.

Though Flora is essential, two people are seen laughing with a smile.

That girl, doesn't she not notice if she doesn't give the signal the duel won't start?

Ah, Giren said something to Flora.

At last, Flora approaches close to the two people to inform the start signal.

"Do your best you two~"

So she said and returned to the seat near Giren again.

Eh!? Is that one now a signal of the duel?

The two had a perplexed feeling but entered into a battle posture.

Evin draws out his sword and takes a slight forward-bent posture, this stance thrusts out towards Frey.

Frey took a counter-attack posture, she twisted her body with the halberd turned to the back of the blade.

Even the voices from the peanut gallery that gathered sparsely disappeared and silence filled the square.

"Here I go."

Together with his voice Evin invaded Frey's interception area by stepping into it at a fair speed.

Frey did not move until Evin came into the position in which with one more step he would enter the reach of the halberd.

Rather than a defensive move, it was an offensive one.

Instead of a passive behavior which doesn't allow an opponent to get close, this was an aggressive behavior that gave a blow to defeat the opponent.

This attack seems to have deviated from the vision of intercepting, which had been drawn by Evin, the defense seems to have been late for an instant.

“...! This timing!?”

Somehow, he was able to divert the trajectory of Frey's halberd with his flamberge but his posture was destroyed by the impact.

However, still he approached and swung his flamberge at Frey, but she repelled it with the same momentum.

Even if it hits, the attack can only touch the surface of the skin. However, it was enough if it was Evin's sword.

The wavy blade that touches the skin doesn't cut but gouges out the flesh. Furthermore, it applied 【Posion】 onto the wound. That attack might have paved the road to victory for Evin, but Frey who could predict it avoided it without any difficulty.

“You avoided that!?”

Against his will, Evin's posture was completely broken by the attempted attack, and he was crouching down.

Without being careless Frey gave pursuit. Shaking off the current situation, Frey lunged down with the top of the ferrule. (EN: metal cap at the end of the halberd, probably with a spike)

Bang the sound that reverberated said that somehow Evin was able to exchange a blow by applying his body weight, the sword was recklessly swung from that posture.

I think perhaps it was an attack that might only graze, Frey had returned to the counter-attack posture immediately after the attack with the ferrule. Melee or free-for-all fight, the opponent had an advantage with close combat. Is the influence of being told many times to defeat him making it so? She corrected her posture and doesn't run for an impossible pursuit.

"You really did it didn't you. Honestly, to have made light of me you bastard." (TL: MTL give me "I did it. I licked you honestly." HAHAHA)

Kukuku, Evin snickered. He held the sword with both hands and steadily stared at his opponent (Frey).

"No, it's really great, Frey-kun was really strong."

Giren who was conflicted here, *haa* let out a sigh. The surrounding party was in a similar condition.

Yes, the intensive training has proven itself here. Simply, that might also have made Evin become serious.

"I will go serious this time!!"

Evin stepped into Frey's area quickly with an attack that was far faster than the first one. This time, Frey might not have room to measure the timing. The second he stepped into the area, she intercepted with all her might.

Clang the shrill sound of metal clashing reverberated.

"HAHAHA, you blocked it well!!"

Before one was aware, Evin was holding the initiative. Frey somehow managed to prevent Evin's charge. He repeated the conflict several times and this rivalry was broken at last.

Frey had gotten injured at last. There was 【Poison】 next to her status when I confirmed it.

"WAHAHAHAA, I have finally damaged you at last!!"

At once, Frey's movements became dull. However, this isn't a mental thing like that time in training. There was a decrease in status because she was violated by the poison.

Frey steadily suffered a second and third wound.

"HAHA, HAHA" (TL: Evin is an S)

Frey's breathing became rough, it reached the point that her stance was destroyed when she swung her halberd.

"It ends here."

Evin was convinced it was his victory. Evin approached Frey in a relaxed manner. He already thought that there was no power left for Frey to swing the halberd

Heat creeps up and oozes out of the wound made by that guy.
My body shaked left to right, when I lose focus my eyelids dropped without permission.

The rough breathing did not cease no matter how much I inhaled.
This 【Poison】. Hibiki said to never receive this. I was not able to follow what Hibiki said.

Is he angry? Perhaps, he might have already lost interest.
No. No. No. No. (TL: sounded good with 4 “no”)

With great pains, I was able to make friends with the goblins...

Captain Lalu helped me so that I could happily make friends with the other goblins.

The goblin who dual wields named [Musashi] by Hibiki, though it was a little bit of a poor talker, it treated me as its companion.

At first, I wasn't able to tell between the goblins, but now I know all the members now.

It will become impossible to meet them if I'm hated by Hibiki. It will become impossible to meet Hibiki himself.

“Haaa, Haaa.”

I managed to breathe somehow by sticking my tongue out like a dog.
(TL: Eros desu~)

Evin casually approached me. I threw all of my strength in my body into my hand to grasp the halberd, but the best I could do was to resist dropping it.

“It ends here.”

No way. I don't want to give up anymore.
Anything was fine. Any method will do. I'd like to win against this fellow.
I'll do anything to win against this fellow. I want to win even if I fight like Hibiki.

Something, isn't there anyway to win against him?
Evin raises his sword.

That's right, 【Poison】 doesn't matter. I should just move my body.
No matter what happens after this, it's fine. Move!! My body!!
I wrenched my body and dodged the blade approaching before my eyes.
It didn't seem that I could completely dodge it and my wounds increased again. Who cares!?

“GAAAAAA!!”

A little bit of power returned to the hand that grips the halberd. This may make swinging this halberd (fellow) easier.
I gripped the halberd with all the power of my body, I scolded my trembling body and thrust out with the halberd.

“GWUAHHAA!!”

Exactly, the ferrule of the halberd plunged into this fellow's body. This fellow collapsed painfully holding his chest.

“It's wonderful!! Frey!! It's your win!!”

Giren runs up here. He seems to say various things, but I only hear a buzzing sound in my ears now.

“Good job, Frey. It was quite a good fight.”

Hibiki says something to me. In spite of the fact that what he said wasn't audible, it should be a good thing thinking from his expression. Hibiki thrusts something into my mouth. The taste that I got used to drinking in these few days, the physical strength recovery potion. The heat went down from my body only by a little. But my whole body went *creeeak* when I moved, it was painful.

“That's right, should I use detoxification?”

Moreover, while Hibiki said something, he groped my body as if looking for something. Hey, there is nothing here!!

“Here, look.”

He poked a finger in my mouth this time. What don't!! I thought so, but there was something rolling around my mouth.

Oh, is this a detoxification pill? When I swallow without hesitation, I'm thinking my body became a little at ease.

"Miss Flora, announce her as the victor."

Giren brought young lady Flora.

Young lady Flora didn't worry about dirtying her dress, she squat down to look at me and spoke.

I'm happy to talk to young lady Flora as it is...

"Hack hack"

Voice didn't come out. Instead, deep red blood had spurted out from my mouth.

"Frey, thank for your hard work. Have a good rest."

A deep red dagger was being gripped by the hand of the young lady.

Chapter 55

Seeing Flora thrust the dagger into Frey's stomach after she managed to win the duel with Evin, I knocked Flora away.

"Kyaa!"

Flora let out a small scream, but I don't give a damn.

"Frey!! Get a grip."

"A, u, Hi-biki."

She's still conscious. I splashed a potion for treatment over the wound and cast recovery magic. When I turned my attention to confirm her status, 【Poison】 seems to have stacked up.

I began to use detoxification magic as well at once. Good, the wound is closed. I will mend the insides later.

"Miss Flora!! What in the world!?"

Giren questioned Flora.

"It might be better if I explain things."

Evin cuts in between Flora and Giren when he woke up; Giren stopped.

"She is a pawn of the demons."

Evin began to explain an unbelievable thing. I had a dumbfounded face, Giren had the exact same face.

"It isn't unreasonable that it's unbelievable. However, did Giren-sama not say it, too? [She is so strong]."

"C-Certainly, I did say that, however, her father was also a knight that I came to be acquainted with?"

"Right, perhaps, the demon's minion likely changed places with her while she was travelling to this town."

Certainly, the guards besides Frey and Flora were also missing. Perhaps, they were dead. However, I confirmed Frey's status and it was

human.

I immediately noticed that Evin's insistence was strange.

"The biggest reason that I accepted this duel was to make sure whether or not she was the pawn of the demon."

Evin proudly stuck out his chest and continued talking.

"Now, Hibiki. Will you hand over that one to me?"

"I refuse. When did you conclude that [She is a demon] when there is no reliable evidence? I hear only the whining of a sore loser."

Evin glared at me with a terrible face. When I returned the glare back, he abruptly turned his eyes away and began to talk to Giren.

"The demon is already captured. Well, Giren-sama, let's hurry. And then Hibiki, wait to restrain that woman, but don't take her out from this courtyard."

Is Giren also somewhat doubting it? It was requested of me to follow Evin.

The first aid was now finished, but because moving her body might be bad, I obeyed the instruction.

Evin leads Giren and Flora away from the courtyard.

There are many inconsistent points in that guy's story.

Perhaps, was the reason for the duel to win over Flora and be a hindrance? I felt a sense of incongruity about the brainwashed Flora, because he bothered to show off with a duel to kill her.

Still, I don't understand the reason why Flora swallowed Evin's instruction.

How much of a flower garden is stuck inside Flora's head? It was strange to stab Frey who she spent time with not too long ago.

"I will run after them. Amy, I leave Frey to you."

"Yes, leave it to me."

I leave Frey to Amy and ran after them. Amy was the most well acquainted with potions; they will be saved by Amy if it becomes a battle. If they get attacked they will manage because I left 2 goblins with Musashi for guards.

“Master such detestable timing, but I hath found Miss Latia.”

I heard Zir’s report while chasing Evin’s group.

“Where is she? Is she related to this disturbance?

“It hath said that the lady is not involved, but hath been involved.”

“Clearly!!”

I seemed to be a little irritated when Frey got stabbed. I did not think that I became to have such feelings because Frey got wounded, certainly not. (EN: Someone’s in denial :D)

I apologized to Zir immediately and heard the story in detail.

“Perhaps, most likely, the swordsman’s destination is Latia.”

“What...Shit, I see now!!”

I noticed it on the way after hearing it. What had Evin said? [The demon is already captured] he said.

Then, the reaction in the detector is the [Half-demon] Latia. There was no other person who was better as a sacrifice.

I must increase my speed to catch up with them.

That guy’s aim must be the church on the main street. Latia was being held there.

When we arrived at the square in front of the church, the place was already flooded with people.

Adventurers, merchants, believers, various people had gathered here.

“Hear me~! I arrested the mastermind of the [Night of Nightmare] when the memory was still fresh.”

On a platform in an open space, Evin carried out an impassioned speech.

The gathered people were discussing in whispers.

Didn’t [Annihilation] catch the necromancer?

To begin with, isn’t the necromancer a man?

“As for this woman here, she is the true leader who pulled the strings of the necromancer in the shadows. This woman is a demon!!”

To Evin’s words, the clamors became louder.

When Evin issued an instruction to a nearby man, a cart was being

carried onto the square.

A big square box was on the cart.

“This is a [Demon Detector].”

When said so, he inserted a demon stone into the detector machine and started it. Then, the detector went *ping*— with a piercing sound and a reaction was indicated.

“See, it is clear that this person here is a demon!!”

As expected, he will kill Latia to cover his crimes.

Certainly, Latia is a [half-demon], however, I can't think she was a criminal by any means.

Furthermore, the suspicion on Evin swells bigger with Frey's case.

On the platform with Evin, was Giren who couldn't follow the situation, and Flora with a smiling face.

Immediately, I checked Flora's status.

Flora Caprice (Human — Demonic Possession)

[Demonic Possession]

One is fused with a demon's purpose.

When first meeting in the goblin's village, though she was a natural airhead she was an ordinary human.

In other words, she was ruled by the [Demon] after coming to this town.

Therefore, she stabbed Frey calmly.

And the most suspicious one was Evin.

However, that guy's status was human. I don't know whether it was possible to camouflage it, but Ruby didn't show any reaction.

“How did the demon approach Flora?”

I noticed the possibility that was thought here.

The information was that the fellow who had manipulated the necromancer was a demon.

But, what about if, for instance, there was a demon but that demon doesn't get detected by the detector, but in exchange, it is in a state where they can't mobilize freely?”

Similar to the necromancer, no, it was worse that Evin wasn't being brainwashed and was cooperating with the demon with ... pleasure ... If that's the case is he human?

"I see."

It's too late, the surroundings have already been stirred up and are agitatedly burning. It wouldn't be strange if Latia was killed. In such a state, even if I say that Evin and Flora are the demons, no one would believe it.

On the contrary, I would surely be made out to be a pawn of the demons. I must think of something.

I found something when restlessly looking about in the surroundings.

"This."

I hit upon a strategy to help Latia; I told Zir and Ayla immediately.

"Both of you, I have a task for you."

I, with Evin on the platform, spoke to Flora.

"Hibiki, you're not believing me are you?"

"Yes, there is still that time in the courtyard. However, it is the truth that you guys captured a demon."

I passed empty silver cups to Evin and Flora while talking.

"It's not an apology, but wine was prepared. Will you drink?"

"Though it is wonderful..."

I looked at him and Evin had a plainly distrusting face.

"There is no poison in it."

I pour the wine into my silver cup while saying so and drank it at once.

I appeal to them when I emptied the contents of the silver cup. I poured the cups to the brim full of wine for the two people, I also pour wine into my own silver cup again.

"To be honest, I was also requested to searched for the demon. However, this is the conclusion. If possible, I also want to cooperate to be

able to capture the demon, too.”

“I see, however, such an exploit cannot be handed over.”

“Yes, however, if we decide to cooperate I can stand tall and save face.”

“There is one condition.”

“What?”

“Hand Frey over to me.”

“Don’t worry. I just only want to hear what happened a little.”

“I understand.”

“Then once again, cheers!!”

We 3 people gulped down their cups. First of all, Evin and I drank up. However, Flora’s appearance was strange. With the cup half empty so far, she began to tremble.

“Young lady Flora?”

Evin also seems to have noticed Flora’s state. But it’s too late. The effect of the wine which was mixed with the [Anti-Demon Killer] had begun to tear the consciousness of the demon away from Flora.

“Snap, whomp, this is!?”

Flora uttered out a low frightened voice, while being muttered at that volume it had reached all the people who had gathered in the square. However, it was strange. Flora had already fell down on the platform and had lost consciousness.

“Fucker, what did you do!?”

A voice still echoed even though Flora lost consciousness. A scream went up from the spectators who had been looking at the platform expecting that there was something by my entry on the platform. Flora might have concealed it somewhere, the dagger that pierced Frey had begun to shine suspiciously.

“Well then, did everyone understand who the real demon is with this?”

I threw away the silver cup and drew out my sword at my waist.

“How dare you do this!!”

Evin, who in this place was the only ally of the demon, approached Flora and collected the dagger.

Evin points the dagger at me and surveys the distance. Then...

[It's fine already, Evin. I will take your damn body.]

The voice a little while ago was heard from the dagger. Is it because it talks with its own mouth? I hear it more clearly than the time it talked through Flora.

"P-please wait. I!? What's happening to me!?"

[You should be proud that you will become a part of my body.]

Something was invading from the left side into Evin from the handle of the dagger. Evin groans while shaking his left hand with the dagger, but it does not separate and remains firmly in his grasp.

Probably to escape from the pain, Evin grips the flamberge with his right hand and swings it down on his left wrist.

Slash fresh blood splattered from the opened end. Naturally, the cut from the flamberge was sloppy and it was not possible to sew it up. Probably, an unimaginable pain should be attacking Evin. Still, Evin, who had a relieved expression on his face, was in some respects severely insane.

"Gasp, GYAA, Haa, Haa, KUKUKU."

The left hand was cut off admirably, Evin was relieved when it was done. However, his tragedy had not ended yet.

This time something started invading from the flamberge on his right hand.

[Fool, did you forget who gave that sword to you, fucker?]

Something sinously creped out from the cut on the left wrist that was lying on the ground. This seems to be the identity of that thing that had afflicted Evin.

Evin, who was not able to chop off the arm, had already soiled his pants while standing in place, he then collapsed to his knees.

The left hand joined and fitted into it's original place immediately.

Evin was still alive, *shudder* his body occasionally went into convulsions. When the convulsions had completely settled, he abruptly stood up and laughed grimly.

[I have kept you waiting, human. Was it [Hibiki]? How dare you serve me that kind of medicine.]

It seems it was in a state where it was completely locked on to me.

Evin Kruger (Demon)

【Demon】

Obtain the abilities of a demon.

Apparently, it seems to have accomplished fusing with the body.
I can do nothing but give up on Evin. Well, I did not have any intention to help him from the beginning.
I held my sword in my right hand and once again engage in combat with the demon.

Chapter 56

Latia's POV

In my childhood I had normal friends.

However, since who knows when [Mother], [Father] and [Friends] disappeared from my surroundings.

I came to this town because the people who would speak to me in the village where I lived are gone.

I went out of the village to a nearby town and met up with various people there.

When I was almost attacked suddenly by a man in the shop which it was said that I could make a lot of money.

Even when it was likely to become friends with an onee-san that I met when I was entrusted with the chores at a restaurant.

Everyone fainted in my presence for some reason and they didn't wake up for several days.

Moreover, stuff would break around me. Although I never touched them.

I came to Welburg because before coming to this town, there was no longer anyone who would talk to me in the town I was in.

This town was an Adventurer town, surely I will be accepted here.

No, perhaps adventurers in this town may not collapse.

I came to this town believing so.

I found work as a day laborer because it was a work where I could talk to many people. But, I became lonely there.

I got fired from work, too.

After I got fired, the old woman who had always greeted me collapsed before my eyes. It was the day when I accompanied her to the doctor.

What should I do for today's meal? At that time I was thinking that. I was surprised from being called out from behind all of the sudden.

"Hiya, hiyai?"

I don't usually speak to people too much, so a strange voice came out. And, I have noticed. For a person to be calling out to a dull woman like me in such a way when there is little pedestrian traffic.

"I-I don't have any money. I also just got fired from my job."

So, it is a burglar-san. No, no matter how, from my appearance it clearly states that the possibility for money was not visible.

"My boobs are small so you should stop!"

Then, maybe his aim is surely for my body? I appealed desperately that he should stop it.

I was told later [Such a pose is dangerous and will have the opposite effect, so don't do it anymore].

Why is that?"

"Besides that, I don't have any parents, I'm foolish, I'm an extremely ugly woman, nothing good will come out of me. *Sniffle.*"

If it is not about my body, then what is it? I spoke with my utmost effort about my troubles to the burglar-san.

A depressing feeling swelled up fast when I spoke.

The burglar-san is a nice burglar-san because he listened to my story.

"Did you settle down?"

"Ha, yes. I'm sorry for the misunderstanding."

The burglar-san seems to be an adventurer.

After that, I talked mainly about coming to this town.

I spoke about various things, but Hibiki-san listened to everything.

When my story reached a pausing point, Hibiki-san had begun to give out a worried air.

I see, it is already such a time. I got afraid after the words [Let's return] left Hibiki-san's mouth.

"I don't have a single friend in this town at all. Hibiki-san, could you be my friend?"

I noticed when I said such a thing.

Uwaa, what the heck am I saying, me? See Hibiki-san looks troubled too.

But, still.

“For a long time, a person who seems to get along well with me, would collapse. However, It seems that Hibiki-san is safe with me, somehow?”

I want a friend.

“O-oh, that so. Best regards.”

Hibiki-san became friends with me.

Before he could say [I changed my mind] I immediately made a promise to meet the next day, then I left the place in a rush.

Like that, the day after tomorrow came early.

The promised day with Hibiki-san.

I was terribly restless on the way to the Adventurer Guild.

Though Hibiki-san’s face looked serious somehow, being an adventurer was tough.

I was troubled a little when he said it was dangerous outside of town, but apparently, it was safe for now. That’s a relief.

More importantly than such things was communication with the red slime that was near Hibiki-san.

Oh, it is pleasantly soft *bunyu bunyu*.

A somewhat scary person looked this way when I steadily touched the slime.

Though I unintentionally hid myself behind Hibiki-san, Hibiki-san did not have an unpleasant face when protecting me.

When I was working putting goods away with Hibiki-san, an alchemist called out to me.

He talked about one thing after another and I was on the verge of panicking. The moment I tried to asked for someone’s help the alchemist collapsed.

Ah, it happened again. With this, my job is done for.

Important people came from the interior of the building. Ah geez, not good.

“The customer apparently got too excited and collapsed.”

Eh!? Hibiki-san is giving an explanation to the higher-ups.
Is he acquainted with this big boss? The boss was serious for me, he gave words of comfort to me.

In addition, I have troubled Hibiki-san.
I said [I'm sorry] so many times but Hibiki-san told me not to worry about it.

But, work has been settled thanks to Hibiki-san. It was necessary to return my gratitude.

Because, friends are equal.

I bought suitable bracelets in a nearby shop and presented it to Hibiki-san.

"Here, Hibiki-san. This is a commemoration for today that I was able to make a friend and as thanks for helping me."

I want to convey my gratitude even a little, however I can only pass on this kind of thing.

"Oi, is it fine? Should you be using your precious salary for such a thing?"

Please don't say such a thing!! For me, there is nothing more important than this now!!

I want to say so. However, my mouth did not move well.

"There is no such thing. This is a very very important thing."

I wonder did my feelings reach him? Hibiki-san received the bracelet.
I was relieved because I was able to pass it, but it's getting dark.
Moreover, it is time to part.
Quickly, I need to make my next promise!!

"Hibiki-san, will you be in the guild tomorrow?"

I mustered my courage and asked Hibiki-san. However...

"No, I will not really be in town tomorrow."

There was never a case when I was sad as this when being turned down.
Moreover, he will not be in town, what was that? Will he never return

anymore?

No, it was not the time to be downcast. If tomorrow was not good how about the day after tomorrow?

“Right, so. The day after tomorrow, I think that I will be in the courtyard of the lord’s castle in the morning.”

What a relief. I can meet Hibiki-san again if I endure only for a day.

“That’s great!! Then, see you the day after tomorrow!!”

In addition, I started running at once before I heard the unpleasant [I changed my mind].

I want to be with Hibiki-san more.

But, it’s possible to meet again. Because he promised!!

“Oi, you.”

A voice called out from the back alley just like several days ago. The voice shows that it wasn’t Hibiki-san, my heart started to beat fast.

When I thought of looking back and answered, I was plunged into darkness.

Eh, what is this? My body doesn’t move.

I wonder why I’m sleepy? Yeah, I am sleepy. I can surely have a dream if I sleep like this. If it was a dream with Hibiki-san that would be nice.

Chapter 57

Evin thrust out with the flamberge.

However, the distance between us was easily 10m. There was no way it would reach. In other words...

“Something is gonna come flying!?”

Bending my upper body, I avoided the liquid that was generated from the point of the sword.

Splash it collided against the wall that was behind me, at the place where it hit there was a hole.

It wasn't an impact, it was a dissolution. That is to say, it melted.

The flamberge was good, the dagger was good, this attack was good, this fellow had many attacks that had 【Poison】 effects.

[You avoid well. It will be boring if it ended immediately. I went through so much trouble to prepare this body for battle. Let me enjoy it as much as possible.]

Evin (demon) laughed happily. I see, from the very beginning Evin was being prepared as a pawn to be used when it came to a fight. Even if it stole the body of the young lady, it doesn't seem likely that it would be strong enough to compete with.

“Wait a minute!!”

Some of the adventurers who were in the plaza ran here.

“Move aside, greenhorn. It is too much for you!!”

While smirking, the bunch of adventurer uncles cut in between me and Evin. I have not seen their faces./They're dignity was not seen.

Perhaps, their ulterior motive was stealing my prey (Evin). No matter what becomes of these guys, it doesn't matter to me. I took one step backwards and transferred Evin to them. More important than that was Latia.

When I looked at the cage that Latia was held in, Ayla and Zir were already saying something to Latia.

=====

Ayla's POV

"Are you okay?"

When I talked to Latia in the cage, she seemed conscious and she returned a response.

"*Unh*, who, may you be?"

"I'm master's, no, Hibiki-san's companion. I came to help."

After hearing master's name Latia-san felt relieved.
I wanted to move Latia-san out from the cage at once, but there was no key.

"The key, I dare say is in Evin's possession."

"Then, as I thought should we have went to help master previously?"

"We shall beest a hindrance if 't be true we hath taken even one attack.
Didst thee not see Frey's duel?"

"Then, what should we do?"

If I don't do something fast, master won't be able to fight while worrying about Latia-san.

"Hmph, tis not without bethought."

Zir put Ruby in the cage. Ruby could freely go in and out through the gaps of the cage.

"Ruby, use [Storage] on yond wench." (Pengu: nice Zir)

"Wait a moment, Zir!?"

As Ruby was called by Zir, it began to wrap its body around Latia-san.

"Red slime-chan, it's been two days~"

As Latia-san was swallowed by Ruby her consciousness grew a little faint apart from the smile on her face.

No way, to take advantage of the fact that master's attention is turned

towards the enemy to kill Latia-san!?

While I was thinking about such a thing, Ruby had swallowed Latia-san completely and returned to normal size.

“Good now, come forth from the cage just as thou art. Yond wench is weaken’d considerably so apply a potion.”

Ruby shook itself as if in acknowledgment when told, it exited from the cage.

Coming out of the cage, it vomited Latia-san out after sometime.

“A-are you okay!”

Though I unexpectedly used the same words I used in the beginning, my worry was on another level.

“Y-yes. Thank you very much.”

Ruby probably gave her a potion while she was inside its body, she was obviously more energetic than a while ago but her hair was somewhat damp.

“Oh, it did turn out well. Still, [Storage] can eke take in living creatures. In yond case, it may beest comfortable if ‘t be true I catch but a wink in Ruby’s stomach at which hour we art camping out.”

Zir, I will tell master about this later.

I hastily reported the completion of the rescue mission to master.

Afterwards, I received from master a [Request] to guard Latia-san.

I shall protect her at all costs.

=====

Hibiki’s POV

Apparently, the rescue seems to have gone well. Though I was startled when Ruby swallowed Latia, I see, [Storage] was effective on living beings, too. I may be able to use this for something.

“GYAAAA!?”

The last adventurer who jumped in was slashed at by the Flamberge and collapsed.

[Boring. Every last one of them.]

Quite so. To begin with Evin was Lv. 40. When combining with the power of the demon, the average Lv.20 uncles won't be a match.

[Now, the opening act is over. Come at me any time now.]
“That so. Shall I start?”

I held up my sword and gradually reduced the distance between us. Though I understood by steadily watching the opening act's fight, Evin (demon) seems to fight mainly with swordsmanship. Of course, it hurled the dissolution liquid that I saw in the beginning here and there. It fought like a demon and moved revoltingly in a way that was originally impossible with human joints. However, this guy still regards this fight as [Play]. Surely, there must be a [True Form]. Well, it carelessly transformed into Evin the hentai, but I will attack it without mercy this time.

After carefully approaching to here I charged. It was difficult to continue the tension all the time even if I understood that he would come at some point.

But then, that's the case if you are human.

[Hmph, crafty aren't yah.]

I was immediately repelled by the flamberge. It was superior in terms of power.

“W-woah.”

I fixed my posture immediately and prepared for pursuit. However, Evin (demon) hadn't moved from his position of some time ago by as much as one step.

[What's the matter? Is this it?]

I wrapped the fellow in wind magic and instantly shot flame magic. This is the fastest Flame Tornado (Fire Storm).

However, that guy swung with the flamberge and the flaming wind dispersed. Magic was probably coated onto the flamberge. I wonder if he used the same magic as mine to cut the flow of magic that had manipulated the wind and flame and forcefully blow it away.

[Magic this time, huh? You are quite versatile.]

The opponent was superior in swordsmanship, also my magic was nullified. What else can I do?

“Can I not defeat him? Then, can I not weaken him somehow to seal him?”

If it’s weakening, it does not mean there isn’t a way. There was the [Anti-Demon Killer]. However, perhaps like that time with Flora, it would not be effective unless you drank it.

Now, the demon (Evin) is in the body of a human, so...

“Then, a seal? However, is there not any way to weaken him?”

Then a certain image came to mind. In my world, there was a certain thing about a sealed [Demon Courtesan] in my country. (EN: I believe this is a reference to Tamamo-no-Mae)

Immediately, I contacted Zir. When we were splitting up into two groups, a whispering ghost was attached to me.

“Zir, can you hear me? Please prepare a stock of [Anti-Demon Killer] to use at anytime in a barrel or bucket.”

<>

Because it will damage Ruby immediately if the stock of [Anti-Demon Killer] contents were to spill over, I don’t store any.

“The stock is distributed in the church. You can receive it if you say that there is a demon to defeat. Still if there are difficulties, you can use Giren’s name.”

<>

“Ah, if possible can you choose people who are able to handle the [Anti-Demon Killer] safely. It’s probably impossible for Latia. Zir, will you be alright?”

<<Ah, tis well enow if 't be true I don't drinketh large quantities of it. Tis harmless with just skin contact.>>

"Ok, please. Contact me when you are ready. Pay attention to not be detected by that guy."

<>

The arrangement with Zir was completed. First priority was to stall for time.

I maintained distance by shooting water magic in rapid succession, but they were knocked down by the flamberge.

[Hmph, Is this all you got?]

"Who knows?"

I acted composed as much as possible.

[Not yet, there seems to be something more. Show it to me.]

"I refuse!!"

I prepared to attack with water magic this time. A whip of water as long as a rope. I attacked from a distance with the whip that was more than 10m.

[It's useless.]

About 1m of the tip of the whip was severed. However, I don't care. There was no substance from the beginning. It was only water shaped like a whip. It only served to disrupt the view even if it didn't hit.

"Haa, Haa, Haa."

After 30 minutes of running around the plaza and keeping my distance, I was exhausted. Soon, I will reach my limit of physical strength.

[Geez, fine. I have had enough. I will kill you.]

Evin (demon) was approaching this way.

As for me, I made an endeavor to move my heavy body, but somehow my body wasn't listening to me. It's no use, I have no choice but to use my trump card. When I thought so, the expected report at last came in.

<<Master, I kept you waiting~>>

“You really did. Zir, carry out the plan by my signal. I’ll make the sign now.”

<>

From my breast pocket, I took out a health recovery potion and a magic recovery potion and drank them up. This was trump card #1.

[What? You still had those kinds of things concealed? However, what's going to happen if you recover your health and magic?]

“This will!!”

Presently, there was about 10m between that fellow and me. I affixed wind magic onto myself to accelerate and charged ahead.

[I see, is wind magic your trump card? However, the speed is insufficient!!]

I know that. Therefore, this was trump card #2.

[I will split you right in half, wh-what!? My legs can't move!!]

Under that guy's feet there was something resembling ice covering the ground.

As for this, the water that scattered the vicinity from the exchanged blows some time ago looks to be frozen with **【Mental Force Magic】**.

The power of Mental Force Magic allowed a thing to be moved or held in place.

With this magic, the water molecular movement can be stopped, so if it is possible to suppress it will it change into ice?

When using **【Mental Force Magic】** I tried to hold a mental image of the motion inside of the water stopping, after many experiments I succeeded. However, I still have not yet acquired **【Ice magic】** so to make ice **【Mental Force Magic】** was necessary.

The blow to the body was guarded by the flamberge. However, it was fine. I assumed that this attack would be blocked.

While we were currently struggling for supremacy, I used earth magic to dig down by that guy's feet. Our swords were locked together and gradually pushing against each other, currently I was on top and this guy

was on the bottom. At last he lost to my power and gravity and tumbled down into the bottom of the hole.

[Fu-fucker!! What are you intending to do!?]

“I will do this!! Zir!!”

<>

Zir had already came to see that guy falling on the ground from the vicinity. Instantly, she began to pour a large amount of [Anti-Demon Killer] into the hole.

[*Gurgle*, fucker!! Like you can really defeat me by such a thing.]

“I did not think it would. Ruby, please.”

Ruby went up to the edge of the hole and a large amount of sand was vomited.

[Do you intend to bury me? Fool!! Using only earth to seal me, wh-what is this!?]

With 【Mental Force Magic】 I mixed well the soil that Ruby vomited out. It immediately became difficult to mix due to the viscosity, I fed air into it with 【Wind Magic】 to steadily hardened it further.

“Do you know of cement? Apparently the raw materials that make it are water, sand, and pottery power?”

[Cement!? What is that!?]

“Quite recently, though an outdoor hot spring was made, I wanted to prevent the water from leaking so I tried various ways to make cement. I was also uneasy about the strength of the clay wall, so I did my best to make it just right.”

Finally the cement was completely hardened and from it I heard a voice again.

[Bastard, then I will show you my true appearance, eh? Eh? Why!? Why can't I return to my true form!?]

“The water that was poured a little while ago was [Anti-Demon Killer]. You are now soaking in [Anti-Demon Killer].”

Exactly, it was a Sessho-seki. It was similar to that one where poison was scattered. (EN: Or Killing Stone; it released a poisonous gas that killed everything around it and the corpse of a vanquished nine-tailed fox was inside it)

[Th-then inside this stone, will I gradually become weak and die?]
“Exactly.”

[N-Noooooo wayyyy!!]

It doesn't matter how much you scream demon. For the time being, I made a small hole on part of the cement while waiting for it to weaken a little. If I poured more [Anti-Demon Killer] from here and it will likely die sooner or later. (TL: imagine pouring poison into a closed box from a small hole)

When I do check the status, I'll know immediately whether it had died or not.

Chapter 58

The battle with the demon ended overnight, I had then been pursued for the subsequent transactions.

Firstly, payment for the unpaid fee of the [Demon Killer Drug] was demanded by the church. As for this there was no problem as it was forced onto Giren.

Next was Lady Flora. She was still in a coma after she fell in the plaza. I confirmed her status and she hadn't fallen into an abnormal state. Was her very soul itself damaged by the demon?

Beyond this point, it was not known if she will wake up.

Flora's knight, no, was it former knight? In any case, Frey was watching over her ladyship in this town.

Simply, because Frey was not specialized in something, it was not possible to do anything but visit every day, that person said while smiling wryly.

And then, the biggest problem was Latia, she doesn't seem to able to stay in this town anymore.

When I asked Zir to prepare the [Demon Killer Drug], though I asked her not to let Latia get too close to the [Demon Killer Drug]...

With her character, the people in the vicinity were occupied working but even so it was impossible for I alone to do anything, she seemed to have participated in helping.

At that time, she seemed to have spilled some [Demon Killer Drug] onto her hand, and she suffered a burn injury.

The injury itself recovered completely without even a scar with a potion, the problem was the incident was seen by the surrounding people.

"This girl, is under my master's, [Annihilation]'s, protection. Any person that has a complaint, report it directly to master later!!"

Though the place seems to have calmed down after being said so, however, after all a door can't be installed in a person's mouth. It spread throughout the town with surprising swiftness.

Though Zir apologized to her for it, it was not like it was Zir's fault. Of course, it was not Latia's either.

Another thing, I don't know whether it was a problem but Latia seems to have not known that demon blood flows in her.

"Both father and mother weren't my true parents. Therefore I..."

In the end, I decided to take charge of Latia, there was Zir's declaration, too. It was possible to recognize her as my possession.

However, there wasn't only bad things.

Some adventurers, Giren, Frank of the Alchemist Guild, and so on talked to Latia with an open heart.

"The number of people who talk to me in this town has increased!!"

Latia informed me being somewhat excited.

Latia was living in the Goblins' village now. I will leave the work of buying things in town that goblins can't procure to her.

I took Latia to the Goblins' village, dispelled her [Curse] immediately, to have her incidentally being able to change her job. When I confirmed the type of job that she can change into...

Latia LV.7

◎Villager

○Maid

○Merchant

○Magician

●Demon king

●Demon General

Really now, there were a lot of jobs, I retorted.

As for demon lord and demon general, she was half but demon blood did flow, [The possibilities aren't zero] was this what it felt like?

[Merchant] job seems to be proper. I feel [Merchant] was a good fit even if I think about the role here.

However, a maid~. If I'm not mistaken when I was buying Zir, I think the lady nearby had [Maid] as her job.

Well, while a housekeeper isn't necessary for us I'll change her job to a maid to try it out.

Latia LV. 7

Maid

[Divine protection of the God of Healing (follower)]

Effect: Raise holiness-related status (large)

Target: Self

Skill

【Housework】★★

Status rises when indoors.

Is a maid a holy job!?

Is there a thought in this world where one will be healed by a maid!? (TL: like celic)

Well, because it was a good good thing the strengthening status was effective so there was no complaint.

For the time being, Latia became my maid. Of course, I informed her that I'm her friend as before. I also asked her to be on good terms with Ayla and co.

Speaking of friends, Frey made friends with Latia.

Now Latia lived in the Goblins' village for a while, also Frey and the goblins' relationship was good from the intensive training, so she came by everyday.

She made friends before I noticed. Well, they both have few friends.

The appearance of Latia which was having fun while chattering with Frey was witnessed in the village.

About the sealed demon, because of the complaints of hearing a voice that continuously sobbed flooded into the church, it was dug out in haste. Because the cement hardened according to the hole, the seal stone was dug up in the form of a slightly distorted column and was carried into the lord's castle. It has been decided to set it up in the reception plaza of the guild.

The adventurers can keep an eye on it anytime, so it ought not be particularly reckless, judged Giren.

As for the sobbing, it was said that it will not be minded in a noisy guild. It has completely become a feature of the guild now. It did not take long for rumors to spread that hearing the cry of the [Seal Stone of Sobbing] it was possible to return alive.

The cause of the rumors seems to come from whenever I go to the guild to examine its [Cry] and confirm that it was still alive. Though I didn't know that.

And lastly, it was the reward, but originally the accepted request was to search for the demon, to that extent it was secured, the subjugation reward was added as extra.

"Sooner or later, the economy of this town will fail because of rewarding you."

Giren pays me the reward while expressing a bitter smile. He was looking a little thinner these past few days.

Concerning about the demon entry into this town, no one blamed Giren. One reason was because no one had heard or seen a [Demon that had the form of a dagger] until now.

Though there were some who would change into a human form to conceal themselves in the past, in that case, it would be caught by the [Detector].

However, there was no reaction from the demon when it was a dagger. It was said that this was a new tactic to nullify the demon detector.

Although the town was exposed to an attack from a new kind of demon, it was estimated that the situation was under control without suffering any big damages.

Unexpectedly, it seems that Giren was popular.

It was about one week after the post transactions have calmed down. For me who was visiting Giren's office for some leftover confirmation matters, Giren was smiling while talking.

"Hibiki, are you free after this?"

The vicinity had already darkened. Was it past 8pm?

“That’s right, because everyone from the village knew I would be late today, I will have my meal after returning home.”

“I see, I see. Then will you keep company with me? Of course I will treat you to dinner.”

I decided to keep Giren company because I was interested in the dinner of the feudal lord.

The dinner with Giren was simpler than I imagined. Of course all the dishes that appeared were delicious but they did not have a feeling of luxury.

“I thought the meals you took would be more amazing.”

In this case, Giren smiles wryly.

“Though I apologize for destroying such a dream, but this is my usual meal for me. There are a lot of different of foods, too, so I always overeat.”

“Is that so?”

“Ah, though I occasionally prepare such a luxurious meal of course, you don’t like such a one, do you?”

“That’s right, I’ll decline that kind of meal where I don’t know the eating method.”

I recalled that matter when [Escargot] was put out in that fancy restaurant I was taken to by my parents. Oh man, my tongue!!

“I’m also the same. Why do I have to get tired with a long-awaited meal.”

Giren kept eating while happily laughing. Most of the provided dishes have finished. Will we get to the main issue soon?

“So, is there anything you want to say to me?”

“Oh, it is so. Will you accompany me a little bit after the meal?”

“Is that what you desire?”

“Ku, haha, it is so. In a sense it is my desire.”

Giren withholds his laughter while applying his hand to his mouth. Did I say something funny?

“Sorry, it is nothing. You will understand if you follow.”

The meal was finished, we walked on the dark road without any guards. When being led by Giren, we were walking towards an area that rapidly losing signs of life.

This by any chance, was he trying to silence me? I was a little tense while following Giren.

“Come now, here, we have arrived at our destination.”

Did we arrive at last? I did not relax my guard and looked around, I confirmed that there was no one.

“Why are you restlessly looking around? Let’s enter inside.”

Saying so, Giren entered the front of the building.
As for the building, all the windows were blocked by curtains, I can’t see what is inside.

Is this the name of the shop on the signboard, [Cat & Dog] was written.

I made up my mind and entered the store. Then there...

“Welcome~. It is our pleasure for you to come to our shop~.”

I was greeted by the manager who was speaking ingratiatingly.

“Manager, it has been a while.”

Giren talks to the manager in a friendly manner.

“Oh my if it isn’t Giren-sama. It has surely been a long time. Will it be Minea tonight~? Or is it Lora~?”

“Tonight, he is the guest of honor. I have made a reservation several days before just in case.”

Giren pushed me out before the manager. (TL: feeling an R-18 chap coming)

“This, I’m sorry for my impoliteness. Were you the customer who has made the reservation?”

“Wa-wait a moment Giren-san. What is this shop?”

“Hibiki, is this the first time you visited such a store?”

He was asking me with the most wonderful smiling face today. Such a shop? No way, this place.

"Here, in this town there is not just one, but contend with two, the shop which sells dreams. Demi-human specialty store, Cat & Dog."

Cat & Dog, in other words, this was a brothel.

Moreover, Giren emphasized that this [High Class Demi-Human Store] was a specialty of the Adventurer town.

Generally, demi-human prostitutes, seems to be the ones treated as low class.

This, seems to be the source of the discrimination against demi-humans. However, this was the the Adventurer town Welburg.

Demi-human discrimination? Is that tasty? They don't really care at all about that manner.

That's because there was a lot of demi-humans among the adventurers, so they are used to them.

And then, though it is said that the people with the best looks are the human prostitutes, the night battle with the demi-humans whom many are born soldiers was beyond description.

This is why this shop answered such a demand head-on.

"Well then, having a reservation, the most popular course in our store are the [cat & dog]." (EN: lol apparently a brothel is like a restaurant)

[Cat & Dog] was also the name of the store. When you say what course, the store prepares a cat and dog beastkin of the same rank, please spend a single night with the honored guest, seems to be what the course was.

Then, Giren arranging for the store to prepare two people of the highest rank, was being said.

Why did Giren bring me along to such a shop? When hearing that...

"Since it would be pointless by saying it so I hid it from you, it is my hospitality. Entertainment. I want to be on good terms with you, I do."

Certainly, it was more comfortable to hide the truth rather than speaking frankly. Should I obediently enjoy myself here?

"Now, Hibiki. Which one will you choose? My recommendation is the dog beastman. The beastman girl is already ready for passionate love~"

Ooh, is that so? If it was me who was a high school student in my original world. It was natural that I have not come to such a store. It might be good to hear out Giren's advice here.

"Oi, oi, don't try that shit on me, if you've said all you wanted to say then be quiet, it's been settled that the manner of the cat beastman is better!! Say, if you seek for gap, the prickly attitude that makes you think that you will be killed is quite contrary to the manner on the bed!! Without knowing, do not talk about the things of this shop."

Having interrupted the story with that, it was the stew uncle.

"Uncle, we really meet often."

The stew uncle noticed me and looked slightly awkward, but began to immediately appeal to the virtues of a cat beastman.

"Then customer, please look and choose the person yourself."

Saying so, I was taken to the interior of the shop. The stew uncle and Giren were exchanging a heated debate behind.

There was a private room in the interior, two women were already awaiting me there.

"I'm Rina a dog beastman. It hasn't been long since I began to work in this shop, but I think I can meet your satisfaction."

Rina was looking towards me with a smile. The trademark dog tail of the dog beastman was wagging *fwip fwip*.

"I'm Dianne. Cat beastman. I may be a moody person, but it seems like my customers are satisfied with that. It is likely I will be able to satisfy you."

Even if I'm satisfied by Dianne, though she doesn't look towards me, was it true? At a fleeting glance at her eyes there does not seem to be any motivation but she turned sideways afterward.

However, if the manager's words are believable, I can be satisfied if I choose either one.

I will be choosing you of course!!

- Dog beastman
- Cat beastman

Chapter 58.5 – 1

As the title stated, this chapter is the continuation on what the MC pick.

From previous chapter:

However, if the manager's words are believable, I can be satisfied if I choose either one.

I will be choosing you of course!!

- **Dog beastman <<**
- *Cat beastman*

=====

Chapter 58.5 Dog Days

I chose Rina of the dog beastmen. I had been attracted by the delicate appearance of the vigorously wagging tail.

“Thank you very much for designating me. I will try my best to the utmost.”

I was taken from the back room by Rina to a private room. She entwined both her hands around my right arm while we were walking. Though there was a lack of volume but all the parts which touched me was of the softness of a woman.

“Please.”

The private room was dimly lit to set the mood. There was a big bed in the middle of the room and a small room equipped with a simple shower. Then heavy drapery on the window. I see, like this the inside can't be seen.

When I was looking around the room, I was suddenly hugged firmly by Rina from behind me.

“Customer, may I ask for your name?”

“Ah, uh, I'm Hibiki.”

“Thank you very much. May I call you Hibiki-sama?”

“Th-that’s alright.”

I was awfully tensed, was it because I was exposed to the mood in the room?

“Haha, it’s okay.”

Apparently, my tension seems to have been seen through by Rina. One by one, my clothes were taken off by Rina. Everything to the very last one.

“Then, Hibiki-sama, please go ahead.”

As I was, I was taken to the simple shower and my body was thoroughly washed.

“Is the temperature to your liking?”

“Ah, uh, there is no problem.”

I acquired experience with Ayla and others, so it wasn’t necessary to be so tense. For some reason I remembered the first time when I slept with Ayla in the same bed.

That day I was also stiff with tension, Ayla had been consumed/tired out more than necessary.

“Hibiki-sama? What happened?”

We returned to the bedroom after we had finished washing our bodies and were both naked. Rina lead me by the right hand to the bed while covering her chest with her left arm. Her tail had became a little thin after soaking in water.

It was disagreeable whether the hips shaking left and right with a *kui kui* was instinctual. My eyes were chasing her swaying small bottom. At the mere sight of Rina’s figure, my body has already become ready.

“Won’t you please think only about me now?”

I seemed to have been discovered that I was thinking about Ayla. She seems to be around my age, but she was sharp.

“Take that.”

“Woah.”

Rina pushed me down on the bed probably because I was still being indecisive. The presence of Rina’s twin peaks which were hidden until now have appeared.

“Haha, I’m sorry that my breasts are small.”

“N-no, such a thing is-”

“Hibiki-sama.”

“Ah, uh.”

“Could you touch them?”

I was surprised at the face Rina made at that time. When I hesitated, Rina pressed my hands against her chest.

It was soft. That’s right, this was something (breasts) that I know. I can finally relax so I concentrated on enjoying myself. From the outset I thoroughly enjoyed the heaven inside my hands.

“Kya~nn.”

Rina noticed that I was finally determined at last and was stirred up. Being constantly criticized was not in my nature. Allow me to attack here. First this posture. I slipped out from under Rina and took a mounted position. (TL: like UFC mounted position but naked;)

“Fu, Fue?” (TL: Risha is that you?)

I attacked Rina’s vital points (dog ears and tail) simultaneously while pinning her down.

“Wa-, please wait a moment!? Aa~, aa.”

The stimulation seemed to be slightly too strong. Rina has made a blunder.

Her ears curved down to appeal sadness.

“Oh, I said to please wait for a moment~”

Of course, Rina can’t be the only one to be in delight. I enjoyed it this time, too.

“Here”

“Yelp!”

Firstly, I caressed the dog ears with my lips and tongue to block her movement. I lifted the drooping dog ear with my hand, I traced the inside with my tongue, and Rina trembled little by little.

From the front, back, we faced each other, it doesn't appear in the same place, and I enjoyed every corner from every direction.

“G-geez, it is no good. Let me rest for only a little bit, please.”

“Ah, then let's take a shower together when this ends.”

“To-together!? I washed your body just now did I not?”

I laughed with a smile. I neither said ok or yes.

“Pl-please help~!!”

I caught Rina immediately who fell down from the bed trying to run away, and went to the shower this time.

“Well then, the night is young. So let's go slowly.”

“Ho-how~!!”

On that night, it seems to be the night to hear the howling of dogs more than usual.

The morning sun stung my eyes. I was astounded at the physical strength and adjustability of demi-human girls in particular the dog beastmen.

In the end, after the second shower I seized the initiative.

Rina who got out of the shower naked had me on the verge of growing wild with instinct causing me to make love to her.

My body was full of Rina's teeth marks. As might be expected I protected my important part to the very last, but I can indeed say that there was no place that her lips have not touched on my body.

“Thank you very much for using us. We look forward to serving your enjoyment again, we will really wait and look forward to it.”

“Ah, uh, someday, okay?”

Rina's tail was not wagging and came off dejected, I believe. Rina who had remembered my skill and taste was unmanageable. Well, though it was certainly pleasant. Doesn't even the soul have a weight? Today, a portion of my soul was light. I scurried on and finally arrived at the goblin village while feeling slightly like a defeated soldier.

"I smell the scent of another female."

When I opened the door to say 'I'm home!', Ayla said such a thing before saying anything like 'Welcome home'.

"Welcome home. Master. What kind of thing was it?" (Amy)

Amy only said welcome back. It really was only a welcome back. When I kept being questioned closely by the two people at the front door, Zir woke up and came over while yawning in sleep wear.

"What is the commotion? Being so loud early in the morn."

Ayla and Amy explained the situation. However, Zir declared it was nothing.

"What? Something like yond, is it not fine? Master would not beest a sir if he didst not has't one 'r two distaff." (EN: distaff is a spindle for spinning which was associated with women)

Zir, you are such fellow—

"There is nay helping it, coequal if twas hath said to beest in the past? I doth not like the scent of a mistress from some other lodging, so I has't nay choice but to overwrite it, nay?"

Zir, you are such fellow—!!

"Indeed, that is so, then master please here."

"Master, *rub rub*."

"Yea, leaveth mine lord's scent to me."

Today, I may die.

Chapter 58.5 – 2

As the title stated, this chapter is the continuation on what the MC pick.

From previous chapter:

However, if the manager's words are believable, I can be satisfied if I choose either one.

I will be choosing you of course!!

- *Dog beastman*
- ***Cat beastman*** <<<

=====

Chapter 58.5 Cat Days

I choose Dianne. The two peaks which had a sense of presence couldn't be hidden by the thin fabric of her clothing.

I noticed that Dianne's eyes which I thought were turned away never put me outside of her view.

"You, you're curious right? Well, it doesn't really matter."

Dianne said so and lead me by the hand.

Though it seemed that her attitude was positively lacking for joining hands together, each time I walked, the tail would swish against me and the fur touched me.

"Umm, Dianne?"

"...What is it?"

"No, it's nothing."

The private room was dimly lit to set the mood. There was a big bed in the middle of the room and a small room equipped with a simple shower. Then heavy drapery on the window. I see, like this the inside can't be seen.

When I looked about the room, a voice came over from Dianne.

“You, take off your clothes quickly.”

You, huh? Indeed there will be none of that.

“It’s Hibiki.”

“That’s so, then undress quickly, Hibiki.”

Calling me suddenly without any honorifics. Is it because it was called gently, because of that I did not hate it?

When I undressed, Dianne also began to undress her clothes cheerfully. Purun, no more like barun, right? I have thought about a considerably dull thing seriously. (EN: I think the MC is debating what type of sfx Dianne’s breasts make)

“Come here quickly.”

Dianne who had already undressed plopped herself onto the bed. The shower doesn’t seem to be needed.

“Ah, my best regards.”

Up till now there was no tension, Dianne might have had such a natural attitude from the beginning, huh?

I extended my hand and covered Dianne’s excellent chest.

Yeah, it is soft. My fingers are sinking forever.

“Men really do like breasts.”

Dianne judges this with a sigh. No, please don’t look at me with such eyes. I seem to be awakened to something.

“If you allow me to make an excuse, there is no way I can not immediately touch them when there are such wonderful things before my eyes.”

“They are just a hindrance. It is hard to move, men look at them, and women make an unpleasant face.”

“Then, give them to me!!”

“Fu nya...!”

I rubbed her breasts while holding them. Sometimes gently, sometimes boldly, I just freely enjoyed the chest of Dianne.

“Squeak, please don’t become so motivated suddenly.”

Dianne never tried to tear me away even though she said that. Rather, the person herself doesn’t notice that her thin cat beastman’s tail was moving as it pleases and was tightly entwined around my body.

I who had notice the existence of the tail, *rub*, stroked the tail from the tip.

“Ah, haa, fuu.”

Dianne became limp just from me stroking several times. Hmm, the tail is her weakness.

“Sto-stop for a moment.”

She seems to hate it seriously when ever she feels it too much. Still, she doesn’t seem to have any intention to release her tail from my body. As there was no helping it, my next target was locked on to her cat ears.

“Eh, n-not that place!? Gasp, nya, nya~”

I held down both her arms and attacked her cat ears with my nose and lips. To exclude the foreign enemy, the ears trembled with a *twitch twitch*, but I attacked the inside incessantly without a care.

“Please~, it is too much to bear.”

For a while, ears, tail, ears, tail, ears, ears, ears, Dianne broke out into weeping when I attacked.

“Then, should I stop here?”

“Yeah? What should I do?”

“No, please don’t stop.”

I kept on attacking as demanded.

Though Dianne was enduring it desperately, over and over she sniffed my body as she rubbed against it.

It was amusing that she rubbed her side against my chest while never clinging, I felt the characteristic of a cat. (EN: Kind of like how a cat rubs against your legs)

When I tried to firmly match eyes with Dianne from the front as an experiment, she fastened her nails to claw my back.

“It hurts, Dianne.

“But, Hibiki is...”

She became a little sullen but she let go of my back silently, she licked the scratches from earlier.

“Thank you.”

“Humph.”

Moreover, I embraced her from behind this time because she averted her face away.

The feeling of Dianne’s breasts on both arms was extremely splendid. I surged into the next round just as it was.

“Nya, nya—“

There seemed to be an awfully lot of male cats hanging out that night around the shop.

The morning sun stung my eyes. I was astounded at the physical strength and adjustability of demi-human girls in particular the cat beastmen.

After all, Dianne kept on taking my desire all night long. However, I cannot say that it was my overwhelming victory.

Indeed in the second half, I did not move to embrace Dianne voluntarily but become motivated by her pleading.

At the end, although she could not stand...

“Geez, is this the end, nya?”

With that provocation, she had been driven one step closer to losing consciousness.

“Please come back.”

“Ah, uh, it is already time.”

“Escaping, ne?”

After all she was still uselessly defiant.

“I-I’ll come again.”

Dianne looked away even if I said so. However...

“So, when will you come?”

The tail still hasn’t freed me yet.

“I-I’ll come when I have time.”

“I understand.”

Her tail finally let go.

“Then, see you later.”

As for Dianne, she opened up considerably at the end. The style of embracing each other in the front seems to have been her favorite. However, I was considerably worn out.

I scurried on and finally arrived at the goblin village while feeling slightly like a defeated soldier.

“I smell the scent of another female.”

When I opened the door to say ‘I’m home!’, Ayla said such a thing before saying anything like ‘Welcome home’.

“Welcome home. Master. What kind of thing was it?” (Amy)

Amy only said welcome back. It really was only a welcome back. When I kept being questioned closely by the two people at the front door, Zir woke up and came over while yawning in sleep wear.

“What is the commotion? Being so loud early in the morn.”

Ayla and Amy explained the situation. However, Zir declared it was nothing.

“What? Something like yond, is it not fine? Master would not beest a sir if he didst not has’t one ‘r two distaff.” (EN: distaff is a spindle for spinning which was associated with women)

Zir, you are such fellow—

“There is nay helping it, even if twas hath said to beest in the past? I doth not like the scent of a mistress from some other lodging, so I has’t

nay choice but to overwrite it, nay?"

Zir, you are such fellow—!!

"Indeed, that is so, then master please here."

"Master, *rub rub*."

"Yea, leaveth mine lord's scent to me."

Today, I may die.

Chapter 59

“Labyrinth?”

The post transactions were settled. I was spending time leisurely in the Adventurer Guild when ‘If you have free time go capture the labyrinth!’, I was told as such by the stew uncle.

“Ah, have you not gone to the nearby labyrinth yet? In your case wouldn’t you be able to get to the lower layer?”

“Isn’t it dangerous to have a labyrinth near the town?”

“Mm? Ah, you are misunderstanding. It isn’t a labyrinth fortress (maze), but a labyrinth game (dungeon).”

When I heard the story, it seemed to be a kind of dungeon.

The labyrinth fortress (maze) was a strategic key point of the demons, the labyrinth game (dungeon) was said to have been made as a hobby by a dragon.

“Do dragons make labyrinths as a hobby?”

Dragons are much more long lived than human beings, but in recent years their population number has decreased.

There hasn’t been a newborn dragon in these past hundreds of years.

To make matters worse, a lot of the comparatively young dragons have

degenerated into demons (became delinquents) and have been aging at an extreme rate in the blink of an eye, it seems.

Feeling the sense of imminent crisis, the dragons accepted humans as grooms or brides as a counter-measure.

However, even if it was temporary it was the mate of a dragon after all. It was unfit for a superficial person.

Therefore, it seems the labyrinth was used as a means to find capable humans.

The search for mates with the labyrinth gained some success.

When a child of a dragon was born, a new demi-human [Ryuujin] was created too.

Ryuujin have the strength of a dragon and the fertility of an average human, this demi-human had the best of both worlds.

The child who was born between ryuujin had a high possibility of being a dragon.

The labyrinth was something indispensable as a [Dating Service] for dragons now.

By the old dragons, the construction of the labyrinth was recommended to the young dragons. Few in number, the young dragons were raised spoilt with little amusements so they were engrossed in building labyrinths one after another.

Naturally, dragons prepared treasure chests (bait) to lure humans into the labyrinth game.

It might be possible to become the [Mate of a Dragon] if you break through to the lowest floor.

“It is said that you can marry a dragon, isn’t that great?”

I was asked that by that uncle who made a fiery speech. A newly married couple life with a lizard with wings, *shudder*. If it was such a hobby, I would rather spend the night at the [Cat & Dog].

I heard about it later, but it seems that the shop can even prepare female orcs when it comes to living things that have the ability to communicate with humans.

Well, there aren't any such perverted bastards, but there seems to be mermaids and fishmen, too. The whole body of eel girls are very slippery on its own so it was a great independent lotion.

Well, since I have adorable women, it's got nothing to do with me.

"Oi, Annihilation!?"

My consciousness seems to have flowed away momentarily. Maybe I'm tired?

"Your life alone is prolonged if you can pair with a dragon, you don't get sick, and above all don't you think the entire body of a dragon is a treasure?"

Having sex with a dragon, there seems to be many privileges in various ways with just that. In addition, even one piece of a scale seems to sell for a large sum of money.

"In addition, they say that they become exactly the same as humans when doing it."

Indeed, I'm relieved then. Though, there is no such plan to do this with a dragon at all. (EN: You go on thinking that)

Immediately, I returned to the village to consult with my beloved women.

“Labyrinth, huh?”

The hand which moved with such devotion stopped to hear my story. There was handmade ice cream in that hand.

Recently, because I was able to make ice out of magic I made it as a trial, the taste was thin, but the ice cream was complete.

Ayla and co. seemed to like it and was eating it silently until just now.

“Is a labyrinth that labyrinth where it’s full of monsters?”

Ayla who was eating ice cream stopped her hand and asked a question.

I continued to explain because there was no sign of Zir’s hand stopping.

“Hmm, that? The labyrinth—”

[The labyrinths are the labyrinth fortress of demons and the labyrinth games of dragons. The labyrinth that owner is talking about is perhaps the labyrinth game.]

The [Book of Wisdom] which insinuated itself into the conversation abruptly, does not understand even though I glared at it.

[When it is a labyrinth game, there is not much danger and it is a good source of income. I have also heard that there are times when there are unusual monsters. For a monster tamer, I judge that it is ideal for us.]

After it said all the things it would like to say, my heart danced when there was additional information about rare monsters. It was my complete defeat.

Originally, I intended to go when I heard the story from that uncle.

“Hibiki-san, Do you intend to go?”

Latia in a maid uniform asked while eating ice cream.

“Are you going to the labyrinth? If so, then please take me.”

Frey who had finished the visit with her ladyship was shrewdly eating ice cream.

This fellow has come here a lot recently. Sometimes she would stay the night causing the space in the village to become somewhat cramped.

You even got the goblins to build you a residence. There is a maid, too.

“You, don’t you visit her ladyship? You can’t go and come back in a day.”

“Is that so?”

That uncle taught me that the labyrinth was a place where it took about a full day in a wagon to get there.

And that’s just getting there. To capture a labyrinth to some extent, time will be necessary.

“Sorry, but Latia stay home to watch this fool of a person please. Also, you just have to deliver the white porcelain dishware.”

It was fine even if I leave it to Latia in the case of the Alchemist Guild. Frank can trade with Latia without fear.

“Understood.”

“Stupid there, if you are free than guard Latia. I will give you a reward if you be a good child.”

“I’m not a child!!... By the way, what do I get?”

The preparations were complete with this. We will buy the necessary things afterwards in town and then leave here tomorrow.

“Master, wherefore art thee so eager?”

Zir who finished eating ice cream asked curiously. After all, this fellow was sharp.

“It’s nothing. I’m excited because a labyrinth is a man’s dream~”

“Ayla, doth thee not smelleth the scent of a mistress?”

My trustworthiness is 0?

“Let me see, I don’t know the scent. A woman, young?”

Immediately, when she said that, many eyes looked at me. I gave up and decided to explain.

For the start of the matter let’s return to the conversation at the Adventurer

Guild.

When that uncle was telling the story about the labyrinth, a thin dirty child came near our table.

“Are you going to the labyrinth!?”

That child while looking at us with a desperate face asked such a thing.

“Sonny, what is it? What business do you have?”

When that uncle asked that, the child began to explain his circumstances bit by bit.

The older brother who went to the labyrinth two weeks ago hasn't come home. He said he would return in one week but he has not come back.

“That is, your elder brother is...”

That uncle used ambiguous words. It wasn't strange for such a thing to happen to adventurers including me.

For this reason, when you are alive and meet by chance, you will fool around.

“You're wrong!! Nii-chan is alive!!”

He probably understood what that uncle was starting to say. The child cried and screamed in denial.

“Please!! Save nii-chan!! I even brought money!!”

Saying so the child put out a bag of silver coins and also a few coppers that were destroyed and had a ruggedness on the surface.

Although it was a large sum of money that was suitable for a child. Naturally, it was too little for a request to rescue his brother.

“This silver coin?”

The appearance was too different with the silver and copper coins. The copper coins are in a state that was not usable in many shops.

“Nii-chan said that if there are any problems to use this.”

It was a reliable older brother indeed. No way, would he have ever expected this to be used in this kind of way.

“Sonny, this is not at all close enough?”

I’m disappointed he said as such.

Even if the surrounding people sympathized with you, there will not even be a guy who will receive this rescue request.

Adventurers do not do charitable work.

“N-no way. But, nii-chan is...”

“That’s right. As the amount is not enough so your brother will have to pay the full payment later. For now, I will get the deposit first.”

As I said so, I picked up the rugged coins and put them away into my pocket.

“Eh, t-thank you, onii-chan!!”

“O-oi, Annihilation!? Is that ok!?”

“I wonder if I might be able to go to the lowest layer? Then this occasion is just earning pocket money.”

Even I understand that I look like I’m showing off. So, I’ll keep it a secret from Ayla and the others.

“Sonny, what’s your name?”

“It’s not sonny, I’m Yakuu.”

Apparently, it seemed that she was not a boy but a girl.

From Yakuu, I returned to the village immediately after inquiring about the characteristics and name of the older brother.

Well, anyway everyone was very pleased with the ice cream so I humored them and naturally began to talk.

“So it was like that.”

I confessed everything that happened in town today.

“I see~. It is an important matter as you have told us~.”

“Was thither a particular need to conceal it? Thou art declaring that we shall search f’r a person while we art exploring the labyrinth, no?”

“Master is so splendid.”

“Yeah, it is a wonderful action. Well, I doubt if that is typical of Hibiki.”

“Frey-san, Hibiki-san is gentle you know?”

Apparently, I seemed to have been thinking too much about it. It was generally a favourable opinion.

The labyrinth trip was decided by the majority. For the time being, I'll hurry as much as possible because it was necessary to rescue the mentioned person.

For the labyrinth group trip, I went to town to buy a carriage for transportation.

Well, for some reason or another my companions have increased recently, if I always gave Ruby the luggage, it might seem unnatural.

In the future, the carriage will be convenient for Latia to shop in town. We will also go on expeditions in this way.

“Welcome. What kind of carriage would you like to purchase?”

“I want a carriage that can accommodate 5-6 people comfortably.”

It might be convenient if there was a large wagon. I ordered with such a light hearted feeling.

What appeared was a wagon with a canopy attached which allowed monsters to pull it. It seems that it was able to allow many people to ride it at once.

“Aren't you an adventurer? Neither the wilderness nor the forest can be crossed if it is not as sturdy as this.”

Indeed, I decided to buy it.

I was told that I can buy monsters to pull the carriage at the Monster Tamer

Guild, I left the carriage at the shop and went to the Monster Tamer Guild immediately.

When I consulted at the reception desk, generally for monsters to pull a carriage, I was cautioned to choose a monster that has previously pulled one before.

Certainly, I don't know what kind of monster was cut out to pull that purchased carriage.

"Among these, the one that could pull the carriage that customer bought is this guy?"

A turtle monster called the Grand Turtle was introduced. Though it seems to be terribly slow, but it was positively faster than a horse.

It had a docile character and even if it was attacked by monsters, it can spend its time hiding in its shell. Unlike a horse, even if it was attacked by a demon it will defend itself with less time and effort.

"After that, it is up to whether the customer can subdue this monster."

For the time being, I approached it...

"Hand."

The Grand Turtle slowly moved to stand up, though it tried to deftly raise its forefoot and place it on my palm, the body slightly trembled because of the weight.

"I-I'm sorry. My bad. It's already fine."

Is it my imagination that its face showed relief?

“You, do you want to become my child?”

It noded in assent.

“Then, please give this monster to me.”

To that extent, the person showing me around who was gazing at me finally reacted and bowed.

“Y-yes. Thank you very much!!”

With this, horse (?) and wagon have been obtained.

We packed food, water, and necessary tools and left for the labyrinth.

Chapter 60

It's been almost 12 hours since we left for the labyrinth that was near the town.

We have been switching places as the coachman. As mutual communication was possible through Ruby, technique was unnecessary. (EN: they are using ruby to talk to the turtle)

According to the map, it should take approximately 4 hours till we arrive.

Certainly, it surely seems faster than a horse. Although it did not seem so because of its swaying stride. It feels like the approximated speed was about 20km/h, I think. (EN: 12mph)

The speed was about the same as dancing on the pedals on a bicycle.

"Ah, nevertheless it is boring."

First I was cautious of monsters, but eventually I stopped.

Though we saw monsters several times, but we passed by them before we were attacked. As I thought it really does seem fast.

Duo and Luo were running side by side, but I let them rest in the carriage because they got completely exhausted midway.

As Queen didn't seem to be able to get into the carriage, it was house sitting this time. (EN: for those who don't remember Duo and Luo are sharp wolves and Queen is an armored mantis.)

"My lord, would thee not like company to while away the time?"

Zir, who was lying down, invited me to play. As I'm free, I said 'Ok'.

"Then, what shalt we doth?"

As there was no helping it, I gave out a suggestion. An item for killing time was just made.

"Let's play cards."

These cards were an item made by Amy, it was almost no different from the card decks which I knew of.

"Oh, that? That is what I saw you making."

Among all the playing card games, I decided to do [Old Maid] because of the simple rules.

Ayla was not available since she was the coachman for now, but Amy also participated and the game was started with 3 people.

Was it about one hour since we started the card game?

Though we were harmoniously enjoying [Old Maid] at first, but now a stinging tension has arisen.

The reason was...

"This!! I-it's different from what you said!?"

The one person which kept on overwhelmingly losing and became displeased

was Zir.

Zir was insanely weak. She made an effort to have the joker drawn with clever speech, unfortunately her emotions reflected too much on her face.

She was depressed if she drew the joker and smiled sweetly only when the opponent put a hand on the joker.

In addition, she had bad luck drawing the joker and had built an overwhelming 30 losses during one hour.

Moreover, Amy was a serious person so she wasn't the type to lose on purpose,

Though I reluctantly drew the joker from Zir, but the joker will be left in Zir's hand if it was noticed.

“I lost again~!!”

Because the timing was good I excused myself from old maid. The purpose was to change coachman with Ayla.

“Ayla, let's change.”

“Yes, thank you very much. It seems somewhat fun.”

She probably heard the trouble from the back as she jokingly answered.

“Ah, it is still continuing so you can go and join in. That's it, Ayla, I will teach you an interesting technique.”

I made a promise to teach Ayla old maid and saw her off.

After a while...

“W-why is this card the only thing that comes out!? I-isn’t this the joker? No, is this the anticipated reverse trap!?”

“FuFuFu~.”

When doing this, I taught her to laugh dauntlessly, but she seems to be carrying that out.

The back has become quite after making noise for a while.

It appears that, though they continued to play cards, they were mainly chatting.

“However, that’s mainly the problem.”

Apparently, they are talking about me. Oi! I can hear you—

“What is master?”

“It wast a wench last time and this time that he wast involv’d with.”

“However, is it an act of kindness this time?”

“I am not finding fault with him in particular.”

“... Indeed, that is a different thing.”

“Hm? What is a different thing?”

“Ayla. Zir is anxious that master’s slaves (rivals) might increase.”

“Hmph, because the other day that gent hath seemed to has’t did enjoy himself in some other lodging.”

“It is a little unexpected.”

“Whatever do you mean?”

“Zir, you are too devoted to master.”

“Yea, forsooth. To beest frank, being able to has’t sexual intercourse is the main import.”

Because having sex with a vampire always comes together with a blood sucking session, The hurdle maybe too high for an ordinary human partner.

“Naturally with repeated skinship, affection wells up. Is that not so for ye?”

“It’s only natural. He’s our master, so...”

“Yes. I want to be together all the time.”

I wasn’t able to catch the aforementioned conversation from there. Well, preparations might be good as I do not think it was a good idea that I hear the girls talk any further.

Here also, we are doing a boys talk?

“Ruby, let us have a love story~”

I doubt whether a slime has a male or female gender, but Ruby’s romantic love story was unfolded passionately

In the place where the talk became lively, the grand turtle also participated in the conversation.

You, you were a male?”

The deep talk about the tastes of Ruby or the virtues of the female figure of the grand turtle was done.

The curve in a female shell seems to be irresistible.

Later, I named the grand turle. Because he was a fellow that did love stories.

From time immemorial, people became on good terms with those who do love stories.

“Speaking of the turtle’s name, should it be an artist?”

Like that I named him Picasso.

Well, there might be various retorts, but there was no guy that knows of a turtle that likes pizza in this world so there was probably no problem. (EN: I think this is supposed to be a pun Picasso → pizza)

We finally arrived at the destination when we were having a heated discussion.

The entrance to the labyrinth game (dungeon) was like a throat in the middle of the wilderness. The stairs that dive underneath the mounded dirt hill was clearly visible.

There were several tents and a cattle shed around the dungeon. The tents are probably stores.

I admired the vitality of the merchant business in such a place.

I left Picasso at the cattle shed and approached the entrance to the dungeon. Signboards were put up all around.

[Dungeon of Selva], [Please come in], [It’s fine, it’s a dragon’s labyrinth], [Be careful of ferocious dragons], etc. the contents covered a lot of ground.

Probably, Selva was the master of this labyrinth.

“How fishy~”

Though the expectations of the labyrinth had fallen in one go, I had already come here. I can’t return empty handed.

I decided to enter inside for now.

The stone interior spread out. The ceiling was about 2.5m. The width of the passage we are in was about 5m wide. (EN: h-8ft w-16ft)

There was no consistency in the width, a room like space was visible from here.

“Is the limit up to two people in the passage?”

I informed the battle formations and roles that I thought of beforehand to Ayla and the others. The ring that I had put my magic in before was passed to Amy and Zir.

I decided to declare the kind of magic and target in advance. With this, it's possible that overlapping magic can be prevented.

“Ayla will go in front with me. Amy and Zir will support from the rear. Amy will also map the place. Zir, please scout with the ghosts. There is a compass so please use it.”

I sent Duo and Luo to the rear as defense. There was also the scouting by Zir's ghosts, so we won't be attacked by surprise.

I advanced through the passage carefully. It seems the hierarchy that we are in now was the upper layer. The [Dungeon of Selva] was formed of three layers, an upper layer, middle layer and lower layer.

The layers were separated by stairs with a [Guardian], if I can't beat it I will not be able to advance any further. It's exactly like a dungeon in a RPG.

“Master, there is a group of five orcs in the expanse ahead. Also, though they are distant, there are several orcs that don't smell pleasant behind us. They are hanging around the passage.”

I ignored the orcs from behind and aimed at the five of them in front. I advanced without being noticed by the orcs while confirming the exact location from Zir.

The orcs are hanging in a larger place than the passage. They seemed to be eating something. They were all each chewing something like dried meat.

I gave instructions to everybody behind me. After confirming the status, all the orcs were about Lv.10. I might be able to defeat them without a problem even if I confronted them head on.

“Zir, please put them in an abnormal state with a ghost.”

“Yea, t’would beest troublesome if they were to runneth wild hither. So, [Sleep].”

Zir released the sleep ghost. The orcs inside began to doze off at once.

When I stood by and looked inside after about 5 minutes, the orcs were completely asleep.

The work was divided among all the members and it was skilfully and efficiently put in order.

Afterwards, we encountered about 4-5 orcs whenever we went to wide places. But we always had the initiative and were also superior in level, so there was no problem in the advancement.

“Yeah, it is an easy win however, this, probably something will happen before long.”

“Something? What do you think it is?”

Because I was confirming where we went while mapping it, my soliloquy was probably heard.

Amy had come on over.

"Indeed, there seems to be only orcs."

Are we advancing well? Were we made to think that we are advancing smoothly? This labyrinth was fabricated.

In other words, I can think that this was something like the creator's intention.

I thought it might be my imagination, but there was definitely something like a trap.

"Fragrance Ant!? If the scent sachet is thrown out in such a place, we will be surrounded in no time!?"

When I advanced further a little, a different monster came in that was mixed into the crowd of orcs.

Especially, when unskillful disposal is done it will cause the fragrance ant to summon monsters with the scent.

Because there was no helping it, I arrived at the room and cleaned it up with Flame Whirlwind (Fire storm) to take care of that thing.

How many rooms has it been now where I've monotonously launched Flame Whirlwind (Fire Storm)?

Something suddenly ignited from the flame which I shot into a room and caused a large explosion.

Zu-n a low sound was heard shaking the labyrinth walls. (EN: the onomatopoeia is for gloom or doomed so I have no idea why it's being used here)

Because of the sound of the explosion, my ears were buzzing. As for this, my ears will not be able to be used for a while.

I would have borne a serious injury in the blast if I had not hidden myself at the entrance of the room.

“It is this.”

Because the buzzing had lessened, I confirmed the inside of the room. Amy brought one of the remaining materials, a slightly blackish powder wrapped in a paper parcel.

“This is [Nitro Powder]. In that room, there might have been a Nitro Powder Butterfly.”

I fought the nitro powder butterflies several times at the necromancer’s event.

It places itself in a slightly higher position and scatters its scales, it was a frightening monster that detonates when human magic touches the scales of its body.

This explosion was caused because the flame was shot in the room where a nitro powder butterfly exists, it reacted to the scales of the nitro powder butterfly and caused a huge explosion.

There seems to be a lot more cruel traps than I thought in this labyrinth.

It might be for the best to dispose of the fragrant ant with flame. However, when I entered the room with fire, this time the ‘Caution: Flammable’ nitro powder butterfly was mixed into the group.

Perhaps, many adventurers hesitate what they should do. However...

“Zir, please tell me whether there are nitro powder butterflies from now on. And if there are monsters that are strange, please tell me.”

“Yea, I understand. Prithee entrust this to me.”

We have to advance steadily with more scouting parties.

We gained control of the upper layer smoothly, and at last we finally arrived at the [Guardian]'s room.

Chapter 61

We held a strategy meeting before entering the [Guardian]'s room.

"It is the first boss battle so brace yourself."

"Boss? Isn't it the [Guardian]?"

"Well, it could be said that it is the ruler (boss) of this floor."

"It is the group leader."

When I let Zir investigate the interior, I knew that there would be a monster which stood guard in the depths of the room to protect the stairs.

Though I tried to put it in an abnormal state as an experiment, but it didn't seem to be effective. As expected it seems difficult to have an effect on an individual that has some degree of intellect.

"For now, Ayla and I will take a look inside. We will come back as soon as the opponent is confirmed."

Since there was no door, it seems like people can freely enter and leave. I brought along a whisper ghost just in case we were separated.

When I entered inside it was a square room approximately 100m (~328ft). The interior was bright enough that I could look around. And, the most characteristic thing was...

"The ceiling sure is high."

The height of the ceiling was approximately 20m (~65ft). When I entered this

labyrinth, there was no sense of descending downward, was the whole upper layer slanted?

And, the essential boss...

“Is it that?”

The stairs, which connected to the middle layer, in the depth of the interior could be seen. *Ta-da* in front of the stairs, an impressive monster was sitting.

A mythical beast having the head and wings of a hawk, and the body of a lion. The monster which was as famous as the dragon. (EN: they are supposed to be part eagle but that is what the author wrote)

It was a [Griffon]. When the griffon noticed us, it flapped its big wings and flew to the ceiling in a dash.

“Fast!? Ayla, make sure that we can withdraw at anytime!!”

The purpose was to scout the place, but I want to collect as much information as possible. The status of griffon was confirmed.

Griffon LV.20

Skill

【Guardian】

Able to give protection to a target. In addition, it can grasp the target's state.

Present target→ stairs

The upper limit of the target that can be protected depends on the level.

“I see, if he is not defeated, it is prohibited to proceed lower.”

Though LV. 20 is not too high, perhaps the three dimensional movement with its wings may be troublesome.

Ayla and I gradually withdrew without showing our backs to the griffon.

The griffon kept circling around the vicinity while intensely staring to appraise us.

Just a little more and we will arrive at the passage.

Did the griffon detect the relaxation of such a mind?

It abruptly nose dived.

I pushed Ayla into the passage and intercepted it immediately. I tried to counter at the moment of that fellow's attack.

“Eat this!!”

As for the timing, it was on the dot. If the griffon doesn't change the orbit suddenly...

“Gugu~”

The wings that folded for the nose dive suddenly expanded for an emergency brake. My sword cuts the sky.

Bad swing!? The speed considerably declined, but in the end it doesn't matter if I don't aim.

“Master!!”

“M' Lord!!”

When thinking that, I heard Amy and Zir's voices, immediately flame wrapped in front of me. Can griffons spit fire!?

However, the griffon was wrapped in flame and suffered. When I looked at the passage, Amy and Zir pushed out their hands which was equipped with rings.

Apparently, the flame was caused by Amy and co.

“Master!? Are you safe!?”

Ayla who I pushed into the passage with much effort came back to me.

“I will take you to the passage immediately. Because Amy's protection will not last much longer.”

As Ayla said, the griffon already made wind from its wings to scatter the flames.

We withdrew to the passage at once.

“Haa, that was very surprising.”

Because there was a difference in level, I might be able to cause injury even if I can't kill it in one blow.

“You saved me. Thank you, everyone.”

“Eh, it is only natural.”

“We desire a reward.”

“No, I’ll consider it. For Ayla and Amy too.”

“Ah, thank you very much.”

“A reward? I wonder what it is.”

“Kufufu, I shall be anticipating it~”

Well, the reward was something to think about in the future, for now let’s capture the griffon.

The griffon kept staying in the center of the room after the fire was completely gone and continued to look towards us.

It doesn’t seem to chase to the point of going out of the room. As expected of the [Guardian].

“Now then, I was made to look a terrible sight, I have to get even.”

I explained the anti-griffon strategy to my companions.

First, I entered the room with Ayla like a while ago. The difference was my equipment.

In order to oppose the rush from the nose dive, I had a buckler in my left hand and a secret weapon in my right hand.

The griffon which noticed our invasion immediately flew up to the ceiling again.

I fixed my eyes on the fellow who had begun to circle around in the sky again, then I directed my sight towards Ayla.

I saw the signal of preparation completion from Alya, and I rushed over close to the wall and dashed at full strength aiming for the griffon.

The griffon looked at me patiently. Was it telling me that it will come if I arrive there? It stopped turning and fixed its eyes on me head on.

I, who didn't mind, kept on dashing, [Ruby] was right under the targeted griffon.

"Here I go!!"

I vigorously stepped onto Ruby and made a large jump using its elasticity.

At first the griffon had a dumbfounded face, but it immediately took an evasive action.

The griffon did not avoid the obstacle. I, who had reached the highest point, threw out the secret weapon which I had on my right hand at the griffon.

"Gugyuua-!?"

The griffon's body got entangled with the rope. There were several lumps of large fist sized metal fastened to the end of the rope.

It was a weapon for capturing, [Bola]. They seemed to be used against people too, but the capturing of the griffon would be the closest to its original purpose.

The slack in the rope disappeared as the metals pulled against each other and tightened the rope.

From here out was my original goal.

In the lump of magic ore at the end I installed 【Shock Magic】 and the capturing power was strengthened with magnetism.

In addition, there was a gem acting as a second defense which let out a electric shock directly to the body if it still acted violently.

Apparently, the griffon seems to have eaten an electric shock.

It toppled to the ground and its whole body was coiled up.

"Well, are you alive?"

The reason I used Bola was that I wanted to capture it alive.

As there seemed to be a monster tamer who captured a griffon according to the [Book of wisdom] I thought of making it my subordinate.

I didn't want to miss the opportunity to get a desirable flying monster.

Even if it fails, if you just pass the time for a while it seems like another guardian will appear so be prepared to play around with it a few times.

From looking at the results, it succeeded with this one.

Though the griffon woke up instantly to threaten us, but after several times of persuasion it was convinced.

“Good, then should we try once more?”

Now, when it was decided we would go to the labyrinth, I scrounged around inside the house and excavated the [Book of Summoning] to take it out.

The Book of Summoning was an item which could call a partner on the spot whom I made a contract with.

Specifically, a path seems to connect with the written sign on the Book of Summoning to the engraved mark on the partner's body whom you would like to summon.

Because I did not use it until now, I carved the mark onto the griffon.

“Isn't it painful?”

“Gugya?”

Apparently, it doesn't seem painful. It seems to only need to press a page of the book to engrave the mark. As expected, it was convenience of fantasy.

“For the time being, should we take this fellow outside?”

Even though we just cleared the upper floor, it would be hard to keep going. So we ended up going back to the road we passed before, but for me the adventure this time was satisfying.

The second time we cleared the upper floor was easier. We found paths and rooms we missed on the first time, so now the upper floor map was nearly finished

“However, we seem to rarely meet other adventurers.”

I got a feeling during our first entry, but it's seems we're the only ones in this labyrinth?

“Isn't it because right now the nearest adventurer town near this labyrinth is already exhausted because of the monster attack and the absence of the main force?”

I see, currently it would be hard for Welburg's adventurers to make money by using this labyrinth.

Because in the upper floor there's only a few groups of orcs and insect type monsters spawning.

The received magic stones and materials were insignificant. It's said that if you want to gain something from this labyrinth, it's better to dive to the middle layer and onwards.

In other words...

“Do you mean Yakuu's big bro is on the middle layer or lower?”

"Most likely yes. Perhaps, it's wrong to assume that there are few people inside the labyrinth?"

"Alright, should we advance to the middle layer?"

I have already known the position of the stairs to the middle layer. I decided to go to the middle layer to search the surroundings.

As for the second battle with the boss, I defeated it from the start with my full strength. I tried to seal up the griffon movement with wind magic but it couldn't completely stop it.

As there was no helping it, I dumped water over the griffon which had become a little dulled by the wind and threw **【Shock Magic】** at full strength towards it.

As expected of **【Shock Magic】**'s power, the griffon became charred and fell from the ceiling.

I obtained the material [Griffon's Flight Feathers].

As for this, it seems to have an effect of raising the power of wind magic, even leaving it as is will exert some sort of effect, and if it was made into equipment, it will have a decent effect.

Let's have Amy make proper accessories when I return.

The middle layer that I went triumphantly to was a place that can surely be called a **[Labyrinth]**.

Chapter 62

“Shit, is it another dead end?”

Though several hours have passed since we have entered the middle layer, I felt like we were going back and forth around the vicinity of the entrance.

“I’m terribly sorry. In addition, my map seems to be incorrect.”

Amy deeply apologized to me who was getting angry. I hurriedly responded to Amy.

“No, it isn’t Amy’s fault. Maybe there are some tricks. Let’s review the map once more.”

“Certainly.”

I walked slightly into a small room. Because it seemed familiar as I looked around the room, I had probably came to this spot several times.

“Have we come to this room before?”

“Let me see, ...yes. This room on several sheets of the map has been filled in.”

The map was examined closely based on that. It turned out that a passage in this layer changed constantly.

“Still, it is only a wall of the passage that is inconsistent.”

Because the connection between the adjoining passage and the room had not changed, the phenomenon was thought to be only the sudden appearance of a wall.

“Uh-huh? Does a wall really appear?”

Suddenly, such an idea occurred. For example, maybe a monster like [Nurikabe] had blocked the way? (TL:nurikabe is a jp ghost) (EN: see this for more info)

“Amy, isn’t there a blank space on the map?”

If its intention was not to misguide, perhaps it is to obstruct the way so that you struggle to reach the room of the [Guardian].

In other words, the blank part was the room of the [Guardian].

“Yes, there is. However, I can’t see a way to go there.”

“For the time being, let’s get as close as possible.”

[Owner, since we first started diving into the labyrinth it has been 2 days and 3 hours. Moreover, it’s been about six hours since we have entered the middle layer. A rest should be taken.]

I noticed myself getting impatient when the [Book of Wisdom] pointed that out.

At the last rest, when the griffon was taken above ground was the sleep incidentally taken for several hours?

“Is that so. Thank you. Let’s take a break here for about one hour. Ruby, please serve the food.”

The food was taken out from Ruby and distributed to everyone.

I asked the [Book of wisdom] what it thought about that matter from a little while ago.

“[Book of Wisdom]. Do you have any ideas about a monster which moves the walls of a labyrinth?”

“Hrm, leprechauns and the like might be plausible. They have no combat power, but their movements are nimble and they are mischievous.”

A leprechaun was such a fellow that seems to have the appearance like that of a small uncle. I will remember even if I see it once.

The walls don’t move, so there might be a monster that moves the wall.

After I was well rested, I left towards the place that would be nearest to the blank section of the map.

“Is it here?”

“Yes, the other side of this wall is probably the blank part.”

I touched the wall, but there doesn’t seem to be anything strange. *Krrrk krrk* I tried to scrape the wall with a spare sword, but it barely cut the surface, it doesn’t seem to be possible to make a hole.

Somehow, the structure of this labyrinth was made so that essential things would be protected.

With the scraping of the wall just now also, perhaps, even if a pickaxe was

driven with all one's power, would the stairway defended by the griffon be undaunted?

It was more and more like a game with non-destructive structures, but if it was possible with magic then it was certainly convenient.

Since breaking the walls and advancing through the labyrinth, the other party wouldn't be fascinated either.

"In other words, there has to be a way to go to the blank spot."

The current passage that was most adjacent to the blank section, was probably about 100m (328ft) in a straight line.

"Alright, let's divide the work and examine it. Amy and Ayla please head from the edge of the passage to the interior."

"Yes, I understand."

"I will do my best."

"Okay, Zir and I will examine it from the interior."

"M' Lord."

Zir was looking towards me with a serious face.

"What's the matter Zir?"

"I might hasn't did notice a most wondrous thing."

"Wonderful thing?"

Zir nodded exaggeratedly and opened her mouth.

"Would it not beest agreeable to behold the other side of the wall with mine own apparition?"

It was examined with the ghost and no more than five minutes later, a moveable lever of the wall was discovered.

There were 4 or 5 small fellows on the other side of the wall. The leprechauns.

Though they stiffened in surprise they ran away in all directions at once because of the sudden opening of the wall.

When the middle layer was examined later, apparently, there were several gimmicks.

It seems the lever in the wall would be finally reached after solving them.

There was a keyhole in the wall with the lever, it appears that the correct way to capture the middle layer was to procure the key.

I moved the lever in the wall with 【Mental Force Magic】 without knowing such a thing and broke through the middle layer of the labyrinth.

"So, what is the fellow that is the [Guardian] of the middle layer?"

[Yea, it is the Stone Golem. It is a magical monster that excels in defense and attack. This is the [Guardian] of the labyrinth, certainly, there are times when they are placed in a magician's workshop.]

"Is it strong?"

[Certainly, it is strong. The body is made of rock which is very useful for attack and defense as said a while ago. It might be considerably hard to knock down this size of a stone golem. Of course...]

[If it moves, however...]

Because we had not cleared the middle layer with the proper route, the stone golem had not started.

I had Ruby swallow it just as it was, because it was special.

I might be able to use it for something. I still have yet to make a golem and I wasn't able to manipulate it so I want to try various things.

There was only the room of the [Guardian] ahead of this wall. Perhaps, the big brother of Yakuu must be in the lower layer because I thoroughly searched this section of the labyrinth.

The middle layer has somewhat ended with a fizz.

What kind of device will the lower layer have?

Is it because I've gotten used to games with solid tutorials?

Somehow, I think the solution for the riddle of middle layer was incomprehensible.

Perhaps, the problem was not difficult. It was just difficult to find the problem.

As for this, the maliciousness of the system was distinct from the lethal scales trap that was in the upper layer.

I descended to the lower layer while feeling fed up.

When passing through the darkness, there was a [Town].

When on earth did I leave the labyrinth?

There was no ceiling with a blue sky spread out. Was a picture of the blue sky drawn on the wall or was it a type of magic?

When I made up my mind and stepped forward by one step, the woman who had been standing at the entrance of the town suddenly raised her voice.

“Welcome, this is the town of Selva.”

At first, I did not think that this person called out to me. After all, she abruptly raised her voice “without looking this way”.

“Umm, are you by any chance speaking to me?”

I confirmed that there were no other people beside us in the surroundings and talked to the woman.

“Welcome, this is the town of Selva.”

The same words just a while ago returned back.

“Oi oi, this is no time for joking.”

Somehow or another, it seemed to have the look of a genuine game.

Chapter 63

For the time being, as a basis I decided to earnestly gather information from the residents in the town.

[This is the town of Selva.]

[A strange face. Are you a traveler?]

[The mayor's house is up ahead of this road.]

[Mmm, it's troublesome, it's troublesome.]

[Hello, Mr. Traveler. Have you already gone to Mr. Mayor's house?]

[Ah, It's troublesome.]

Surprisingly, about half of the residents of the town that were talked to were extraordinary interested in the mayor, and more than half of the residents that weren't interested in the mayor were troubled.

"What kind of town is this?"

For the time being, I'll visit the mayor's house who has come out to be the most talked about.

Perhaps, the mayor might speak directly.

[It is said that father went to the old mansion that exists at the outskirts of town but he hasn't come back after 2 days. Mr. Traveler, will you look for father?]

Why do you abruptly make another person who had came to visit the mayor to look for the mayor?

In the first place, what was with this daughter who leaves her father unattended for 2 days?

Maybe because I'm anxious about the thing that I had not become motivated about in games, that I'm actually strolling around to complete the [Errand Quest].

I could only say [Yes] or [No] in a game. In some cases, I had no choice but to select [OK] or [Yes].

For now, I'll complete the [Errand Quest].

First of all, I went to the old mansion to look for the mayor. I arrived from the mayor's house in only 10 minutes.

I had tried to enter the old mansion, but the door was locked and wouldn't let me in.

When I went around the mansion, there was a silhouette of a person on the inside so I told them to open up, but there was no indication of a reaction.

I kicked the mansion door with all my might as an experiment, but there was no damage.

Because there was no helping it, I opened the lock of the door with 【Mental Force Magic】. (TL: use the force, Hibiki.) When I entered inside, the maid and butler at the entrance stood staring at the air without saying anything.

Just like a doll. No, probably it might be a doll.

It appears that the characters will not move because I haven't entered the room with the normal route.

I began to search the mansion, but all the rooms were locked so I was stuck with using 【Mental Force Magic】 every single time.

Maybe about 15 minutes had passed since the search had started, though the

person who seems to be the town mayor was found, this person said nothing as expected.

“Still, do I honestly have to look for the key of the mansion?”

I returned to the town reluctantly.

Then, the residents of the town had increased. Was this because the event progressed?

[Hey, were you able to meet with the mayor?]

First, I don't think I've met you though?

[As for the key to the mansion, man A has the key.]

Who is man A? How do you know that I am looking for the key to the mansion?

[Ah, it's troublesome, it's troublesome.]

Be troubled for life.

[If it's man A, it was said he was going to go to child B's place.]

Therefore, who is child B!?

[Child B does not seem to get along with man A recently.]

So what!?

[Welcome, this is the town of Selva.]

Persistent!!

When I was exhausted by repeating the back and forth arrangement, an injured man was sitting down on the edge of the road.

“Is this fellow an event character, too?”

“You, you can talk!?”

The reaction was amusing. No, should I say it was a proper reaction?

Apparently, this man was not a resident here, but was mostly likely an adventurer.

“Four days have passed since I was confined here. Monsters don’t come out nor is there a [Guardian]. Even if I went back to the top I would not last to the surface with this injury, I was at a loss.”

The man had lost his right arm. First aid seems to have been reliable, but has considerably weakened, but there was no danger to life.

“You, are you Sai?”

I revealed the name of the elder brother which I had heard from Yakuu.

“Why do you know my name?”

“I received a request to help you.”

“That can’t be, I don’t have such a friend that would be worried about me. If so, I would not have come alone to such a place as this.”

“If there is no companion who would worry, is there a family?”

“Could it be Yakuu!? That’s not possible. She doesn’t have such money.”

“Ah, therefore, it is necessary for you to pay the fare when we get out of here.”

“Did you receive it by a deferred payment!? I could have been dead long ago!?”

“At that time, that girl would pay with her body.”

“You bastard!?”

Sai glared at me with a furious face. (TL: I got rhinoceros for Sai, lol)

“There’s no problem if you’re that energetic. For the time being, have a potion and take a rest somewhere.”

Sai, who judged that it was a joke from my appearance, retracted his anger and received the potion.

“However, are you really siblings?”

Yakuu was a normal human. However, Sai had dog ears and a bushy tail.

“We are from the orphanage. Yakuu was a baby left on the same day when I was abandoned at the orphanage.”

Sai seemed to have become the elder brother of Yakuu on that day.

With Yakuu’s age, she might have already noticed that they were not true brother and sister.

Even so, she put out a request when she wanted to save her older brother.

“I see, your little sister was raised well.”

“You, if you lay your hands on Yakuu you’re not going to get away unscathed.”

“What are you saying about such a brat?”

Sai was made to shut up, and the information gathering for the lower layer capture was restarted.

[Welcome, this is the town of Selva.]

[Welcome, this is the town of Selva.]

I pointed a sword to the detestable doll in the shape of a woman who would not have an important role.

I did not use my favorite sword as a precaution.

To become useless by such an experiment would be a problem.

The doll’s right arm from the elbow was chopped off with the sword. I heard a *shaa* sound, and from the severed surface something like blood flowed out in large quantities.

[Welcome, this is the town of Selva.]

The ringleader that had an arm chopped off repeated the same words as if nothing had happened.

“As I thought, won’t the destruction prevention magic start?”

I grimaced slightly at the blood-like thing which gushed out, this alone there will never be a time I’ll grow accustomed to it.

In this town, there was a mixture of two kinds of structures, non-destructive and ordinary structures.

The [Mayor] who was in the mansion was treated as a non-destructive structure. I was certain because I tested it out carefully.

Because I confirmed what I wanted, I decided to start the lower layer capture.

The method...

<<M’lord, our part of the preparations art complete. We has’t most assuredly hath left the town.>> (EN: Zir talking through a whisper ghost)

“Alright, then I’ll start.”

I covered the whole town with a soft breeze. Because of the considerable scale, I raised the wind slowly.

When the wind grew to some degree, the fire was set. Similarly, I spent time bringing it up.

Rumble the flames burned brightly and engulfed the peaceful town.

Even though I set such a big town on fire, not one scream or angered voice was heard.

In such a state the arranged activity was repeated.

Indeed, it just might be a suitable end for the town of dolls.

I waited slowly while adjusting the wind so the flame wouldn't spread outside of the town.

About 2 hours should have passed.

In that place, sporadic buildings and people, which were entirely unaltered from before the fire was set, had remained.

“Yeah, it became slightly better with this.”

We did not do such an absurdity from the beginning, either. For about 6 hours after finding Sai, I seriously went along with the [Errand Quest].

And yet, the first objective with the [Mayor] still could not be met, even the key to enter the mansion wasn't found.

It was the same as the middle layer, solving the problem wasn't difficult but finding the problem was.

There were a lot of irrelevant mob characters and buildings to the quest.

Evidently, the buildings that were set on fire and have retained their original form was about 30%.

Because the fire was completely out, I called back Ayla and everyone who was taking shelter and the capture was resumed.

First of all, I gathered the [Important Characters] that were burnt out of their homes into one place.

Next, I broke into the buildings which remained unburnt and stabbed the characters who survived in the building and sorted out the important characters.

In addition, I went around to pick up the non-destructive items which were in

the houses.

Number of non-destructive characters ··· 68 people.

Non-destructive buildings ··· 23 houses.

Non-destructive items ··· 13 pieces.

When I had finished collecting everything, the names of the people and items were examined with a status check.

Each story was heard, and the related things each one needed was collected.

I had digested the [Errand Quest] like routine work and finally got the [Key to the Mansion] in hand.

When the key opened the mansion and I entered, the maid and butler at the entrance spoke with a smile towards me.

““Welcome, thank you for coming. How may we help you?””

Somehow, it seems that the story has finally started.

Chapter 64

“I am the butler left to manage this mansion.”

“Likewise I am the housemaid.”

This place seems to have the setting called the Deceased Aristocrat’s Mansion.

The vindictive spirit of a noble who had died a regretful death came out to wander every night, it was that sort of setting.

“The town mayor was on a friendly terms with the noble during his lifetime, he was grieved in the heart about the strangeness in this mansion.”

I stood dazed in the interior of the spacious room.

“U, u, gaa~~”

Suddenly, the housemaid attacked me.

The knife which was aggressive unlike the knives for household use was gripped in the maid’s hand.

“Yo~, to.”

I quickly evaded it and it was blown off by my sheathed sword. All the same, it was unpleasant to make a bloody entrance.

“Hey, hey, are you ok!?”

“Th-this!? The hell!?”

Sai approached me while worried. I informed him that I was safe, and asked for help to tie up the maid.

Though the butler acted surprised, it was transparent.

This fellow also had a knife in his breast pocket.

Why do I know such a thing?

That is, when I entered the mansion the first time, I frisked the doll.

In truth, I was going to take away the knife, but it was fixed with non-

destructive magic so it was impossible.

Therefore, I expected to some degree of being attack by the housemaid.

It was correct to also do a full pat-down on the maid-san.

She was the owner of a considerable threat (bust).

“Haha, a most wondrous manner, to beest truly suffering as a sir.”

“Don’t you want to confirm the feeling? Do you also often touch the body of Ruby?”

“Master?”

I advanced ahead while not being discouraged by the cold eyes from the women camp.

The butler who regained his composure with surprising swiftness guided us.

“The town mayor should have came here. However, it is locked and it is not possible to enter inside. The mayor had the key and he has been inside.”

I ignored the butler’s drawn-out trivial explanation on the setting, I prepared the indicated keys which were the [Important Items] which I collected in the town one by one.

The door made a *click* sound and opened when I turned the third indicated key around.

“Incidentally, it has been heard that there is a spare key in the town. However, I don’t know where it is.”

The butler still continued to speak his speech because he was in the middle of his explanation.

We proceeded beyond the door without caring about it.

“Zir, there might be a device that begins to move, please search the mansion again.”

“Yea, as was expected the dolls has’t begun to move. Thither art goblins in the room with the may’r. The way they hadst came out wast from the adjoining waiting room.”

When the room was opened, a large quantity of goblins would attack me. A standard trap.

"The [Guardian] tis beyond that room. This, is't a Minotaur?"

For the time being, I went to the room where the mayor was.

I heard a voice and it seems that the butler was still besides the door.

"It is here."

"Yea, thither shall beest swarms of goblins."

The goblins who were inside all looked towards us at once when I opened the door.

Despite them being goblins, I will not finish unhurt if I'm attacked by this number.

However...

"Well done. Is the work progressing?"

I called out to the goblins inside frankly.

"Gigi, gugi!"

The goblin who was slightly bigger than other guys approached. I confirmed the work progress from him. It seems to be a little bit more.

I have already met them once.

When I entered the mansion illegally, I found a hidden door when I checked this room carefully.

I had a ghost probe the inside of the door because that was the residence space of the goblins, that being the case I cooperated with Ruby and added all the members as subordinates.

There were 36 goblins in total, they were commanded to safeguard the room and they seemed to have been kept living in the adjoining residence space.

They might have been disgusted with such a life, they had easily acknowledged to become subordinates.

Therefore, I made them prepare to move before I left the mansion.

Amy, from the rear, had a slightly bad complexion. It might be because of the trauma caused by goblins.

She still reacts to strange goblins. (EN: as in strangers)

By the way, if it was the goblins in the village, I was familiar enough with them that I could distinguish them by face.

Particularly, the 3 goblin artists, I treated them as ceramic art apprentices.

The things which all goblins are good at seemed to be different.

"Pl-please help me!! I'm being surrounded by goblins!!"

From the depths of the room, I heard the mayor's voice.

Perhaps, when the door was opened and the state of the mansion had activated the event might have been generated.

The mayor's impassioned performance resounded silently in vain.

I ignored the mayor and met the end condition of this room.

The condition was [The goblins are gone from the mayor's view] so I blindfolded the town mayor quietly.

I had the goblins here teach me this.

Then...

"Thanks, I've been saved."

Apparently, it seems that I was able to fulfill the end condition well. The stairs appeared near the mayor.

"The hell, what are you?"

Sai had a face that showed he had seen an unbelievable thing here.

"I'm just a ordinary adventurer."

I moved the blindfolded doll uncle, that kept saying thanks with pleasure, and with everyone went down the stairs which had appeared.

Incidentally, the butler did not attack me.

Maybe the scenario which he attacked me was at the time when the first door

was opened with the key.

When I went down the stairs, I arrived at a open space with barred rock surfaces.

I recognized again that this here was a labyrinth.

In the depths of the open space, when I confirmed the Minotaur's status who was the lower layer [Guardian]...

Minotaur Lv.40

Skill

【Self-regeneration】 ★★★

The damage to the body and the decreased health was recovered.

【Guardian】

Able to give protection to a target. In addition, it can grasp the target's state.

Present target → Hidden Stairs

The upper limit of the target that can be protected depends on the level.

It showed itself here, the strongest enemy had appeared.

Lv.40 was the same as Evin, but the minotaur should probably stress physical attacks.

It would recover even if it received a little damage because of its skill.

Is the skill 【Guardian】 a required skill of a boss monster?

Because it was possible to confirm it with the status, that there were hidden stairs was leaked.

Apparently, it doesn't seem to attack us immediately even if we just came down the stairs.

Because it was just right, I began a strategy meeting with the new goblin companions.

I got ready and approached the Minotaur.

“Vumoooooo~”

The Minotaur plunged in full of motivation. It lifted the huge battle axe in its hands easily and aimed towards me.

About your determination, I am sorry, but this wasn't the place to honestly confront that fellow.

I issue instructions to the labyrinth goblins at once.

"Large crossbow corps, ready!!"

It was a [Weapon] used to attack in sieges the so called ballista.

Already, the 10 handheld personal weapons that boasted of offensive power were arranged in a line. (EN: so these are probably scorpions which are portable ballistae) "Target, frontward minotaur. Odd corps, release!!"

Five long, large arrows were shot by my command.

"Guumoooo~"

The big body, approximately 3m in stature, caught the arrows and was blown off backwards.

The arrows, that were around 1m and similar to a spear, pierced deeply into the minotaur's whole body.

One arrow was sticking out through the pierced right eye, and the arrow was unhesitantly pulled out.

The wound where it was extracted from emitted smoke and was closed like crazy.

By the way, this ballista. It was something that was produced in the goblins' village.

Originally, I let them make it to defend the village, but because of the good workmanship I was going to try to sell it in town.

However, once I noticed the size of the goblins I gave up on selling it and had Ruby store it, so it's somewhat useful for this maze capture.

"Odd corps, reload!! Even corps, ready to fire!! Release!!"

The second relay was shot and the minotaur's posture was destroyed.

“Vururuuu.”

When 10 shots had been fired, the regeneration speed of the minotaur declined.

At the beginning, the lost body parts were regenerated instantly, but now the restoration is a mere shadow of its former self.

It was already pierced throughout its body and it didn't have any energy to pull the arrows out either, it collapsed and stopped moving.

Apparently, 【Self-regeneration】 seemed to cure health and wounds by using MP.

Now, Minotaur's magical power was nearly empty.

Probably the health that remained will run out if it received one more attack.

I urged it to become a subordinate in that state. It appeared absurd, but the minotaurs were a tribe that followed strong individuals.

If it was defeated with any method, it will follow the victor. However, it was extremely difficult to weaken it here without killing the minotaur.

Sai couldn't believe that such a minotaur was knocked down by goblins even though they had such numbers.

The goblins in the rear also seemed to be excited because they were able to overcome the minotaur.

Originally, these goblins seemed to have settled down in the upper layer, but the orcs, which were their natural enemy and also their rival, appeared there and defeated them in a struggle for existence.

Then, they found Selva the master of the labyrinth, they seemed to have kept protecting the mayor's room in the lower layer.

Because those guys, who didn't have confidence, could knock down a minotaur, who was at a higher rank, with their own strength, it was impossible for them not to be happy.

The open space was filled with the merry noise of excited goblins.

“Vimo~~”

The minotaur let out one feeble cry and lowered its head. With this, the war potential considerably increased.

Especially, my being able to use 【Self-regeneration】 was huge.

From what I saw from the minotaur's wound recovery, it was almost immortal if a steady supply of MP was received.

There were also gains in the labyrinth itself, Yakuu's elder brother was also firmly found, it was a quite significant expedition.

I can leave the labyrinth in an instant if I climbed the hidden stairs which emerged after defeating the minotaur.

The exit of the stairs were connected one way to the entrance of the labyrinth.

In the olden days, it seemed to be so by the story of the adventurer who had cleared the labyrinth before. Well, the person in question seemed to have died already.

When I looked around the surroundings while thinking such a thing for some reason or another, I found that there was one door standing alone in the barred rock surface.

Chapter 65

“Why is there a door in such a place?”

I approached instinctively and steadily looked at the door.

“Master, what happened?”

“No, there is a door here.”

“Door, is it? Where is it?”

Amy looked around restlessly disregarding the door in front of her.

It's rare for Amy to say a joke.

“Haha, that is an interesting joke. Isn't in front of you?”

“.....I'm terribly sorry, master. It seems that there is a door which isn't visible to my eyes.”

Amy's eyes seemed to be very sad. She seemed to really not see it.

“What went wrong? Aren't you returning above ground?”

Everybody came over here in succession.

“There is a door, do you see it?”

All the members had the same answers of “I don't see a door”.

Impossible, is it a door which only I can see?

It's becoming scary, I grasped the doorknob.

Then...

“What, it was really there.”

“You can see the door!?”

“You, what did you do this time?”

Everybody had came to see it, too. However, aren't Sai's words terrible?

“However, what is this door?”

It seems to disappear to everyone when my hand separates from the doorknob.

I had asked Zir to check the other side of the door, but she said that it was just rock.

“Probably, the door is the work of magic. Is a person who passes through the door made to transfer somewhere?”

The stairs for the return have already appeared. In other words, this door was completely outside the norm.

“How should we do this?”

It was the labyrinth of a dragon here. The labyrinth that the dragon had prepared should be up to the lower layer.

In other words, this door may lead to the staff room.

Then, it could be said that a dragon may be ahead of this door.

The labyrinth, particularly the lower layer, has become tattered and they might resent that.

“Should I not go?”

The purpose of this labyrinth search was accomplished. It might not be necessary to brave a pointless risk, either.

Though I thought so...

“Is it safe to open the door and see the inside?”

If I can see ahead of this door and it seems to be dangerous, then I can just immediately close it.

I turned the doorknob slowly and look inside timidly.

“Welcome, to the [Management Layer]”

Inside was a beautiful girl in good tailored clothes. She looked young like in her early teens.

She beckoned me with a smile.

“Who are you?”

All members came to visit while carefully passing through the door.

“I am the master of this labyrinth, Selva the Scorching Dragon.”

Selva, if I remember correctly was the name at the entrance. However, I heard that this labyrinth was made 50 years ago.

The girl who introduced herself as Selva was too young.

When I directed a look of doubt, the female dragon nodded with a “uh-huh uh-huh”.

“That’s right, even if a young dragon like me is said to be the master of this labyrinth, I would not believe it. This labyrinth is the thing which I made at the age of around 160 years.”

If living conditions were to be put in order, a dragon’s lifespan slightly exceeds 1000 years.

Selva seems to be a rookie at the expected tender age of 220 years. As for the making of this labyrinth, the adults of the village seemed to have considerably helped with the set-up.

“Are there only 3 groups, including you, that have been able to capture the lower layer of this labyrinth?” (Darknari: I believe Selva is talking to herself here) Selva had a little bit of a troubled face. She apparently seemed to be dissatisfied with the number of people that were able to capture it.

“You, for the first time in 40 years are the one that traversed and mastered this labyrinth dungeon.”

Selva expressed a joyful smile this time.

“That door is a transfer door which only appears when an adventurer who captured the lower layer has [Divine Protection].”

Divine protection could be succeeded from parent to child.

It seemed to be a measure to gather even a little bit of human beings with power.

“Usually when the lower layer is broken through I move that door from the lower layer, however you were quick to find the door so I have been waiting for

you in the [Management Layer].”

If the human appeared to be promising, it seems they are invited to the [Management Layer] because of that she was laughing loudly at the time saved.

For some time her expression had been constantly changing.

The tension might have became strange at having visitors after a long absence.

“Then, I invite you to my mansion. Ah, slaves and monsters will be disposed of properly for my peace of mind.”

“Wait, what is with the disposal thing?”

“Hm? Well, because you will become my companion, right? I am self-aware that I’m a deeply jealous person even among my race. Do you think that I could possibly be able to bear it if there are other females near you during our newly married life?”

I’m already a companion for this fellow. My opinions don’t matter.

It was the exact way of thinking of an absolute dragon king.

Though I gave a dirty look, but she likely noticed. A motion of concession has been suggested.

“Do you hate it? Then, when the newly-married life ends, will similar fellows gather?”

She doesn’t change her intention of disposing of Alya and the others.

Apparently, she doesn’t seem to be able to allow me to smell of other females.

“I don’t have any intention to become your companion. I only came to this labyrinth to make money.”

I informed Selva that I was not interested in her dragon body but just in the treasure.

“.....Would you tell me your name?

No way, I didn’t think that she would ask my name with this flow.

“Hibiki.”

“Is that so? Hibiki, I said a while ago that I’m jealous. You know that you are already an irreplaceable existence for me?”

Selva began to talk bit by bit with a dark face.

“After seeing you neutralize the griffon in the upper layer with a strange method and making it a subordinate, I considered what to do this time while being excited.”

“In the middle layer, I was surprised when after having gotten utterly lost in the labyrinth you had abruptly entered the [Guardian] room.”

“When the town in the lower layer was burnt, my stomach hurt from laughing too much. As for when the goblins betrayed me in the mansion the feeling of consent was stronger than anger. If I told you to become my friend, would you end up saying yes?”

“I saw you defeat the Minotaur here. When the door appeared, I felt it was [Fate].”

She had been talking for a long time. Meanwhile, we moved to a place considerably away from Selva.

While speaking, Selva’s body rapidly grew larger.

She who was a cute beautiful girl was already not there any longer.

Instead there appeared a dragon which had bright red scales.

[Dragons are a race that have strong monopolistic desires. Female dragons are especially very jealous. The number one cause of death for male dragons, who have no natural enemy, is supposedly being killed by a female dragon.]

“Say that earlier!?”

[Incidentally speaking female dragons seem to be stronger. There are various opinions for why this is, although it is likely that the tolerable amount of potential magic power is large for female dragons because a dragon may have the power of two bodies to conceive an egg.]

The information that wasn’t wonderful also became available. This damn

[Book of wisdom], wasn't it greatly talkative?

During this expedition, I carried the Book of Wisdom.

The height was just right for a pillow when sleeping out in the open, I noticed that it had became especially difficult to crawl in with a woman at night if there was this fellow.

Indeed, there was no girl who will still act while hearing this fellow's voice.

The story has wandered. Did I escape from reality?

When I compiled the newly available information, originally, female dragons which are jealous are stronger than the males of the same race. Damn it, she saw my behavior in the labyrinth and was pleased with it, I have to decline from being her companion by all means.

Eh? Isn't that the worst?

The information of that [Book of wisdom] fellow doesn't lead to one positive information.

"Surely, if these fellows are gone, will you choose me? Hibiki?"

Selva mutters lines like a yandere and approached. (TL: death by snu snu) The aim was to attack the others and not me.

This was bad, Ayla and the others can't bear an attack from Selva.

Attack.

If I don't turn the interest of Selva to me.

I started running immediately and thrust the sword into Selva's right forefoot.

I hear a *screech* sound and the tip of the sword slipped from the scales.

"Shit, no good!?"

"You must not disturb, Hibiki."

While saying that, the thick log-like tail attacked me.

I moved to evade it immediately, but the tail refused to go away.

"U, gah!?"

I was blown off into a tailspin. Its power had just grazed me.

Immediately, 【Self-regeneration】 was useful.

As it was a lot of magical power was taken to recover but I somehow managed to stand up.

“Eh? You put up quite well. I thought that you wouldn’t be able to move for a while.”

Selva said that slightly happily despite failing to bring me down.

My magical power will probably be used up in restoration if I receive about the same attack.

While Selva was preoccupied here, the goblins began the large cross bow preparations.

Ruby ran with Ayla towards me. If I can link up with Ruby, I can replenish with various potions.

The minotaur who recovered its health earlier with a potion faces Selva.

Though the minotaur wrestles with all its power and somehow managed to put Selva down, but Selva wasn’t daunted at all.

“You good for nothing hindrance.”

Selva just shaked her body a little and the minotaur was blown off.

“Well, who to begin with first?” (TL:talk like a psychopath) Selva looked around the surroundings and confirmed the prey.

There, the large crossbow which had finished preparations launched an arrow to attack Selva.

“Yeah, the attack that defeated the minotaur. As expected, there is only force. I have to step back slightly.”

The arrows that hit Selva have the pointed ends of the arrowheads smashed. And the scales of Selva don’t have one wound.

“Gimme a break.”

Sai can’t follow this situation and muttered a few words, which was in

everyone's mind.

Chapter 66

You might say that this situation is hopeless. However, I will be killed if I give up.

While I was confirming the status of Selva, Ayla and Ruby once again commenced their attack on Selva together.

Selva Drakelord

Scorching Dragon Lv.55 220 years old

Skill

【Scales of the Scorching Dragon】

The scales reduce all attacks.

This is especially the case for magic in the flame family that the scorching dragon rules over, which is useless against it.

【Fang of the Scorching Dragon】

Fangs that crush everything, even steel becomes food for the Scorching Dragon.

【Wings of the Scorching Dragon】

The Scorching Dragon's flight is in short beautiful.

etc.

etc.

Even the format of the explanation is myth-like.

And, what is etc!? Is it electronic fee collection system!?

There is no time to be discouraged at the big difference in treatment and levels, so I approach Selva.

Firstly, Ruby the raid commanding officer rushed to attack.

Ruby's predation attack that always captured the enemy's whole body only managed to capture the left forefoot.

Though it tried hard to slurp and dissolve Selva's scales, it would regenerate after melting a little. After repeating it over again, it seems it can't be expected for there to be an effect more than restraining the left foot.

"What is this? A slime? As if a slime could be a hindrance to me!!"

Selva shakes her body like that time she threw off the minotaur.

However, Ruby changes its body viscosity to be flexible to elude the attack.

It is difficult to approach because Selva, who did not have things go as she wanted, began to rampage and throw a tantrum like a child.

"Here I go!!"

Ayla plunges into such a place.

She drew closer with a speed that the eye couldn't see and she repelled the forthcoming right forefoot back with the 【Hand of Protection】.

She seems to have invoked 【Impact Reflection】.

In addition, the left forefoot was not able to move freely, and because the right forefoot was flicked off, Selva's posture broke and she pitches forward.

The minotaur promptly begins to suppress her by pinning her down. I used earth magic to cover Selva's body to seal her movements a little.

"T-this!! I won't receive damage from such an attack!!"

Exactly as Selva stated she will not sustain damage. 【Scales of the Scorching Dragon】 will also be effective for physical attacks.

I approach and also touch Selva's body. Because this restriction will not last too long, I set up the trick.

"GAAAAAAA—"

I finish with the trick and immediately the restriction was dispelled.

The only restriction is Ruby on the left forefoot.

<>,>

Zir's voice was heard from the whisper ghost.

The cooperation until just now was from Jill's helpful directions.

I placed several ghosts around Selva and was able to perform a precise attack because she always reported the situation.

“For now, the trick was readied on Selva’s scales. Please give the order to Ruby to prepare [that]. I will drive it into a good position after letting it weaken a little.”

<>

I finish communication with Zir, and begin to approach Selva to help Ruby.

Selva inhaled in a big breath motion.

“This is bad!?”

It is the too famous attack method of a dragon. The [Breath].

Selva who had finished inhaling turned to the area where Zir and Amy are.

“FWOOSH——”

Scorching flame is emitted from Selva’s mouth. The flame hits the [ground] that appears in front, bounces back and burns Selva’s own body.

“Whoa, what is this!? What is happening!?”

After all, it seems she will not be damaged from her own flame.

Speaking of the thing I did, I put magic power in [a certain book].

The certain book was the [Book of Summoning]. When I approached Selva before, I pressed the book onto her and attached the mark.

In other words, to the place where Selva was, she was [Summoned] by slightly shifting the coordinates and angles.

This time, I moved her about 50m from her original place and [summoned] her in a posture with her face towards the ground.

“This, this time!!”

I reconfirm the position of Zir and Amy, and [re-summon] Selva, who was going to vomit breath there again, approximately 30m away from that place.

“Shit, this again!?”

Bam Selva made a terrible sound when she collided with the ground.

Even if I can't cut her with a sword because of the scales, I want to believe that the impact influences her somewhat internally.

I perform a third [Summon] before Selva fixes her posture.

"Don't think that the same move will pass many times!!"

When she was deposited in a place far from the ground like the previous [Summon], Selva extends her wings in the air to try to fix her posture in the air.

At that instant the large crossbow corps aimed at the left and right wings and hit them.

Though the scales repelled arrows, as expected they could pierce the thin membrane.

"G-GYAAA—"

The pain of the piercing was perhaps not that much. However, she was flung against the ground as her posture collapsed.

"E-eungh."

Somehow, the damage seems to have spread internally as well.

Selva stands up while grimacing in pain.

But, Ruby is already waiting there.

It wraps up both of her forefeet immediately and seals her movement.

At the same time, Ayla and I hurled a large quantity of phials at Selva.

"Whoa, pfft. What is this? Liquor!?"

An anti-dragon trump card, it is [high-purity ethanol alcohol].

[Dragon], the appearance is that of a body as big as a dinosaur and membrane wings like a bat.

If its body is close to a reptile structure, it could be a [poikilotherm]. Furthermore, reptiles have a good sense of smell. (Darknari: poikilotherm is a creature whose internal temperature varies considerably, commonly known as cold-blooded)

Ethanol can carry out a simultaneous attack of an irritating odor and dropping

the body temperature due to high volatility, these were two features that were deemed effective. (TL: check, feel like author making up shit to sound smart.....) (Darknari: it seems possible check this link for more info)

I assumed that there would be a battle against a dragon because I was going to a labyrinth which a dragon controls so I prepared for it, but there wasn't anything decent.

As for saying that, it is because the said dragon is a recognition that an ordinary adventure couldn't easily bring down.

It is heros or a country's army that could subdue a dragon.

A dragon is something like a natural disaster such as a typhoon for adventurers.

[Escape if you encounter a dragon. Give up if it is impossible.]

This was the mental attitude I had when I challenged this game labyrinth.

It seems that it is a custom of adventurers in Welburg to propose a challenge to the dungeon virgin adventurers as a test of courage. (Darknari: raws literally said dungeon virgin)

Inevitably, a large amount of liquor was turned into the highest degree of purity with Amy's **【Refinement】** from the liquor bought from town.

“Goa, Gwuuu?”

Her vigor disappeared a little while ago. Rather, instead of suffering, she seems to be drunk.

That's remind me, I have a feeling that there was a story about a dragon, either from the Orient or a Western dragon, that was easily subdued when it was dead drunk on liquor.

Ruby won't really be affected and get drunk even if it takes in the alcohol with its sense of smell since its body doesn't have organs.

Ruby starts to swallow Selva little by little. From both forefeet it creeps up to the body, and swallows half of the body leaving the long neck.

Of course, it isn't possible to finish digesting it, so the offensive trump card is

taken out.

It is a ball of demon steel the size of a soccer ball. I came across some in my spare time and continued to [Charge] them full with 【Shock Magic】.

“Selva~, Ah.”

“Hm? Ahh.”

Because of the effect of the 【Scales of the Scorching Dragon】, even if I throw it just as it is there won’t be much of an effect.

Selva who had completely become drunk easily opened her mouth when I did a gesture of an open mouth.

I throw in the demon steel ball without hesitating, then I prompted Ruby to withdraw.

I confirm that Ruby is slowly creeping back and escaped, then I took out a demon steel ball the size of a marble.

When it took on the 【Shock Magic】the surface began to crackle with electricity.

As for the demon steel ball not long ago, if the magic for detonation is not given from the outside than the magic in the ball won’t release.

This globule is like the match that ignites the fuse.

With a flash I flicked it with my finger, it shot into the air and I operated it with 【Mental Force Magic】 and put it inside of Selva’s mouth.

After a short time, together with a dull thud sound white smoke rose out from Selva’s mouth.

“Ah, ga, ga, gaa.”

Her eyes were wide open completely showing the white of her eyes. With this it will not be too difficult to give a decisive blow.

I was going to take a second demon steel ball out from Ruby, but then a voice appeared from behind.

“Please wait.”

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“Please wait.”

I heard a voice from behind and looked back to see the maid from the [Lower Layer]’s mansion.

No, she’s very similar but slightly different. The difference is a horn growing from the top of her head.

[It is a ryuujin. I have heard that there are many people who live together with dragons, too.]

That is, if the father or the mother is a dragon, then the child will have dragon characteristics as well.

For now let’s confirm her status.

Irene Drakelord Maid

竜人 Lv.38 25歳

Ryuujin Lv.38 Age:25

Skills:

【Housework】★★★

Status Rises Indoors.

【 Blood of the Scorching Dragon】★★

Can reproduce the abilities of a dragon. However, the effect is deteriorated.

Drakelord, the same family name as Selva.

“Would you please leave the attack at that? I think that Selva-sama will also reflect on this painful experience.”

“Why did she attack without any warning?”

Based on levels as well, I shouldn’t drop my guard against these opponents.

“Anyhow the reason for secluding ourselves within the dungeon’s [Management Layer] and rarely going out is that the conversations and such of this personage with the remaining people... No, the remaining people and

dragons, were just awful.”

Do they have trouble in society?

“She hasn’t exercised at all and only relied on her natural abilities as a dragon. She’s really hasn’t trained at all.”

Is this hikikomori (shut-in) actually weak for a dragon?

“She also has a particular weakness to alcohol, when Master learns of it he will give her a severe scolding.”

Well, that alcohol that was concentrated to the limit is closer to a disinfectant.

“The attack on the body’s insides before didn’t even have very much damage, how deplorable to get surprised and faint from that.”

My trump card’s damage was nearly nothing as well? Then it’s seriously no good to use it in a pinch.

“Selva-sama. Please wake up already.”

She began to crack a very thick whip that was 10 cm at its handle. It made a loud smack as it struck Selva’s face.

“I-it hurts. What? What is it? Geez, don’t be so quick to hurt me!”

“Please transform into human form without being half-asleep.”

“I-I understand already. Geez, Irene will get angry soon if I don’t.”

I’m interested in that whip that was able to easily damage Selva, so I checked its status.

Whip of Dragon Destruction

【Dragon Killing】★★

Able to pierce all of a dragon’s defenses.

It’s a Dragon Slayer. I haven’t heard of a Dragon Slayer in the form of a whip.

Afterwards, when I visit the dragons’ relatives I should get my hands on some Dragon Slayer items.

“If we don’t know where the weapons that can kill us are, wouldn’t you agree

our safety would be compromised?"

It is certainly justifiable. It seems that currently the method to make 【Dragon Killing】 weapons was lost so those that exist are all that there is.

Surprisingly, it seems this country's relationship with the dragons is in high enough regard in order to make deals for 【Dragon Killing】 weapons.

With a rustling sound, Selva shrinks and returns to the form of the sweet cute girl I saw at first.

Of course, as with convention she became naked when returning to human form. Because of that our lady started to pout and grumble.

"Truly, I am very sorry."

Irene-san bowed very deeply in apology causing Selva to bow despite her swelling bruise.

Irene-san shot Selva a glare causing her to fluster and to start bowing repeatedly.

"Originally, dragons don't randomly attack people. We especially respect people who challenged the labyrinth. Forcing someone into marriage is not done."

Since the dungeon opened only 3 people have traversed all of it, and only I was a man that had a divine protection which they wanted to obtain and it resulted in them desperately hoping to invite me.

"Would you please accept a gift as an apology?"

We are intruders who forcefully broke through the dungeon but she wants to give us a gift as an apology?

"Because the dungeon invasion was desired by us."

Seems like it's okay. (Darknari: They're freakin' mind readers, lol) "Speaking of, you took all the layer [Guardians] as your subordinates, right? We have a contract with farms and workshops to purchase suitable replacement [Guardians]."

Why expressly tell me that they hold all control of the rules of the dungeon?

“While the dungeon’s pretense is searching for a suitable spouse for dragons, it’s just a pretext to enjoy ourselves. For such a reason, Hibiki, your novel method of capturing the dungeon was very enjoyable.”

So, no problem. Or so I’m told.

If that’s the case, I decided to take the apology gift.

Incidentally, Irene-san is exactly like the mansion’s maid so that maid was modeled after her.

Naturally, the scene where I was frisking the body was seen too. I had a moment of shock when I heard that.

The [Shrine] can be seen from the plaza where we are at. There seems to be their aim.

It was about 10 min until we arrived at the shrine, then Irene unlocked the shrine’s gate.

“Please pick from among Selva-sama’s treasures in this warehouse. You should be able to find something you find pleasing.”

My spirit perks up a little when hearing about a dragon’s treasure storehouse. Dragons in this universe seem to also have the habit of collecting shiny things.

“To open up my treasure storehouse to someone beside Irene, I-I’ve become a little nervous.”

Selva doesn’t seem to have friends, either. Without minding her all the members entered the treasure storehouse.

“Ho, it’s quaint good.”

“It is amazing.”

“M-may I also enter?”

The treasure storehouse overflowed with various things.

Decorative weapons and armor.

Accessories that I don’t understand how to wear.

Gold and silver coins that were piled into mountains and were scattered

around carelessly.

“How do you like it? My things are pretty good, right?”

Selva heard us and entered with a triumphant look. I simply ignored her while I kept searching.

I pay no mind to Selva’s voice behind me as she clings to Irene.

Everyone started choosing whatever they wanted.

I caught sight of a sword separated from the rest in the back of the treasure storehouse.

Checking it’s status.

Seiken (Holy Sword)

【Curse of Concealment】

The true power is hidden and sealed away.

There was a holy sword. Because of the curse I can’t tell what effect it would have.

“Oh, so you zeroed in on that sword? You have sharp eyes. That’s the [Holy Sword], which was used by one of the previous heroes or some warrior to possibly defeat, or maybe not, some kind of Demon King or something, I’ve heard.”

I can’t understand that messed up explanation. I don’t even get if he was overthrown in the end.

Still since it’s cursed that means it must have come in contact with a fiend, right?

『YES』

[YES]

There was a sudden response in my head. I look around but Selva is only staring blankly in puzzlement.

“Eh, What?”

“Selva, did you say something just now?”

When she heard that Selva suddenly burst into tears and ran to Irene's side.

"Irene~, Hibiki has not forgiven us yet."

"It's alright, it's alright, Hibiki-sama, I understand your anger but we apologized so please be a bit more nicer to Selva-sama."

"No, I just heard a voice besides Selva's just now."

I look around the surroundings restlessly, but there is only Selva and Irene with me in the depths of the treasure storehouse.

"Is someone there?"

A word of denial rings in my head. I check my status to see if my skills have increased.

【Oracle】

You can ask god's opinion with two choices.

【Fame】

Gives a status effect corresponding to your title.

The effect increases and decreases based on the recognition of others.

Titles:

Labyrinth Explorer

Hero of Welburg

Lord of Goblins

Disciple of Flame Whirlwind

Demon Killer

Black Magic User

Annihilation Apparently, some time ago there were [Yes] or [No] revelations from god.

【Fame】 seems to strengthen my status when a title is attained from being more well-known.

Currently 'Disciple of Flame Whirlwind' and 'Demon Killer' are about as effective as 'Labyrinth Explorer'.

Will recognition by goblins also lead to an increase in my status?

The enhancements are...

All Status Rising:

Labyrinth Explorer

Hero of Welburg

Demon Killer

Annihilation Goblin Morale Rising, Leadership Rising:

Lord of Goblins

Effect of Fire and Wind Magic Rising:

Disciple of Flame Whirlwind Chance of an Abnormal State Against Opponents Rising:

Black Magic User So what's the bottom line?

Seems like if I fight in front of a lot of people my status will increase faster.

Well, that was a tangent, back to the [Holy Sword].

I reach out to grab the scabbard and lift up the sword.

The [Cursed] state didn't come undone, is it because I haven't touched the sword?

I slowly reach towards the sword hilt.

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When my hand touched the hilt, the sword flashed for an instant.

When I used all my strength to draw out the sword from the scabbard, it came out so easily.

“Eh? Was it such a beautiful sword?”

Selva gazes at the sword wonderingly.

I also confirm the change in the Holy Sword.

Star Sword

【Stardust Healing】

The magic power that dwells in the stars is bestowed upon the owner.

【Stellar Blaze】

6 Star Rank Will not lose sight of your way.

5 Star Rank Will not lose sight of your position.

4 Star Rank Gain Night Vision.

3 Star Rank The surrounding temperature is always comfortable.

2 Star Rank Attacks below a certain level are invalidated.

1 Star Rank Gain the power to cut everything.

Oh, it's not a Holy Sword but a Star Sword.

I guess since a hero used it long ago it's also a [Holy Sword].

I don't know the cause but I can only use the rank 6 effect right now.

Incidentally, I'm facing north.

“That sword was made from a shooting star according to legend.”

So it's a kind of meteoritic iron? If that's the case, this holy-like sword has an interesting history, he thought while nodding his head.

“However, it's not too good of a sword.”

"Because it only has so so cutting power. It can barely cut through dragon scales."

I feel if it can just wound a dragon then that's enough.

"Moreover it's abilities are subtle. I mean you don't really need MP regen right? How could anybody exhaust all their MP."

What a dragon-like thing to say.

"My lord father came across this sword somewhere and just gave it to me when he came back. Do as you like."

The [Star Sword] doesn't seem to have any use to dragons.

"In that case, I'll take this."

"Eh, that's it? You know there's even more amazing weapons? Among other things there's a sword which slices mountains, a sword which parts the sea, also a spear which will always pierce the heart. However, it's not allowed to offer a Dragon Slayer."

"I'm good with this."

"Is that so? Hibiki is unselfish."

Sword in hand, I returned back to Ayla and the others where they had all finished picking out the thing they wanted.

Ayla chose a pendant with a small jewel.

Amy smartly chose several unknown alchemy volumes.

Vir chose several bottles of dragon brewed liquor.

Sai was gratefully clutching several stacks of gold coins.

"Though it's a bit late let's break for tea."

Selva guided us out of the management layer and past the gate to a residential area.

The reason for the treasure storehouse to be on the management layer is because those adventurers who were aiming for treasure that came there will be satisfied with the management layer and leave.

"Therefore I've never wanted to consider someone entering my home until now."

We started chatting while drinking a rich tea in her parlour.

Ayla, Amy, and the others are restlessly peeking at the unusual dragon castle.

Zir is properly enjoying the tea and sweets.

Since Sai is unable to keep pace, he started gulping his tea heartily.

Since he is missing one arm, he struggled to add sugar in the cup and stirred with a clatter.

Tea and sweets were placed in front of Ruby also. Ruby puts out a feeler more dexterously than Sai, inclines the cup, and takes the tea into its body.

"Irene-san and Selva, are you family or something?"

I abruptly brought up the subject. Selva and Irene are too stunned to say they are lord and servant.

"It looks to me that you are related, correct?"

Selva was confined in the labyrinth and it seems that Irene's human mother looked after her.

Well, about 30 years ago, when Selva's elder brother came to check on her state, Irene's 25 year-old mother fell in love at first sight and they became partners.

After that they cultivated their love in this labyrinth for five years until Irene was born.

On the 6th year, Irene was born and it became necessary for Selva's brother to return to the dragon's village.

Originally, it was the job of Irene's mother to watch over Selva, so she remained to raise her child while taking care of the big dragon child.

Thus, when Irene came of age (in this world it's also at 20), she immediately left for the dragon's village where her husband was at.

"I see... That makes you auntie and niece?"

(TL note: Obaa means Aunt but is used for any middle-aged women.) "A-auntie,

please don't call me auntie!? I'm only 220 years old you know!?"

As you would expect from a dragon. With a hikikomori period that's incomplete at about 80 years, is she going to pass as a parasitic 2nd generation? (Darknari: A 2nd generation is someone whose parents had worked their asses off so they could laze around doing whatever they want) "Go work, NEET."

Neat? Selva adorably cocked her head to the side.

"That reminds me. Hibiki, you have a [Divine Protection], right? How did you get it? Did you get your new power from the temple?

"What? What's wrong? Did you not gain anything? Or have you not realized it?"

"No, I obtained it. Is a power obtained when you go to a shrine?"

"Eh? Didn't you know? The god gives out powers though it is not absolute."

『YES』

[YES]

As I recalled, the 【Oracle】descends.

Let's go to temples regularly from now on. Because this place is distant, I'll have to look for closer temples.

After finishing the tea and sweets, we started talking about returning.

"Y-you're leaving already?

"If we stay much longer, we will be a nuisance."

"No, not at all."

Selva started to get flustered but we have to take Sai back to Yakuu's place.

"However, it's night outside the labyrinth now. Shouldn't it be fine to leave tomorrow morning?"

It's difficult to keep track of time in the labyrinth. Outside is apparently already very dark.

"Th-that's true. Leaving tomorrow morning would be best. And if we oversleep we can stay another night."

We accepted Irene's kind offer to spend the night in the dragon castle.

Nevertheless, if we oversleep we would still leave the next day, so we kept in mind that 'we have to do our best tomorrow'.

The next day, we don't oversleep and leave early morning for town.

Is it good that both of them expressly came out of the labyrinth to see us off?

"Do you have to go?"

"Uh-huh."

"Th-that's right. Another time I want to go and meet Hibiki. Is that okay?"

"I think it's fine."

I glanced at Irene-san who nodded in assent. It seems that it's not a problem.

"Well, well then I'll go now. With Hibiki."

"Selva-sama."

"Hyaii!"

Selva who had started to get onto our wagon returned dejectedly.

We had various encounters but we departed for Welburg.

Picasso begins to walk slowly and gradually leaves the labyrinth.

"I will definitely go. I will go soon!!"

From behind us, Selva was waving so hard it made a whirring sound.

I also wave back lightly.

Our first dungeon capture was finished in this way.

While we slowly enjoyed the inn's bed after such a long time, I noticed something.

The [Star Sword] is a [Holy Sword] but it is particularly a [Sex Sword]. (TL: Pun here, Holy Sword and Sex Sword are both pronounced Seiken)

Chapter 69

It was in the middle of the night when we arrived at Welburg.

As expected, I decided to stay at our usual inn saying that we should take it easy today.

We decided to rest all night and go to the guild tomorrow morning because Sai's stamina was considerably worn out by the wagon movement.

When I asked him if he should return home, I heard that he doesn't have a base in this town yet.

Since we are tired it would be difficult to find Yakuu. Even though he wants to meet immediately, he will just have to endure it.

Well, Sai was covered in wounds, but we were not. No, I should say we were not except for me.

[These past few days you were sleeping outdoors, so naturally you haven't kept the others company.]

The [Book of Wisdom], that was put in its usual place, analyzes the present condition.

"I'm sorry, may I have your affection though it is shameless?"

"Due to sleeping during the day all this while I am not somnolent at all, so allow me to be thy companion."

"Master. Umm, thank you very much!!"

Apparently, my girls seem to have plenty of stamina.

Tomorrow, I'll take Sai to Yakuu alone. Since they won't be in a condition to stand up.

"Good, I'm coming."

I was going to fight until I ran out of stamina.

But I noticed the unusual phenomenon after about the third round. I was gradually coming upon my usual limit but there was completely no problem.

On the contrary...

“Ca-can’t we take a rest for a moment?”

“My lord is assuredly bottomless this present day. As expected, I am knackered.”

“Master, master!!”

With the exception of Ayla, the rest are exhausted.

Accordingly, I was pretty surprised.

“I-it seems I’ve gained infinite stamina.”

In other words...

1: Stamina and fluids are lost

2: 【Self Regeneration】 keeps recovering as long as there is MP

3: The star sword instantly recovers my MP

4: Return to #1 and repeat

And so it goes.

“Fu-fuhahahaha!! I finally obtained it. The strongest (sex) power!!”

That day three people were loved to their heart’s content. With this I can maintain the dignity of a master.

“Today you were very passionate.”

“Yea, there wilt beest no dissatisfaction, if thee love us this much at each moment.”

“It was amazingly pleasant. Again, thank you very much!!”

I tasted a women’s vitality. However, it is the truth that I have no physical limitations.

Perhaps this might be the best crop harvested from this time’s dungeon.

The next morning I head towards the Adventurer Guild to introduce Sai and Yakuu.

Yakuu was sitting near the entrance to the guild. She seems to have been

waiting here for a long time.

“Nii-chan!?”

“Yakuu!! Nii-chan has returned!!”

Yakuu dives into Sai’s chest. Sai manages to somehow catch Yakuu’s ramming attack.

“That’s great. I thought you had died.”

“Ahh, I was able to survive and return thanks to your request to Hibiki.”

Grab, Sai hugs Yakuu tightly with his remaining arm.

Yakuu seems happy but after noticing his missing arm her face darkens and she chokes up.

“N-nii-chan!? You lost your arm!?”

“Ahh, I blundered in the labyrinth and lost it. Don’t worry, the wound has already closed.”

“B-but, then being an adventurer...”

There are not many guys who can remain as an adventurer after losing an arm. Not to mention that Sai dove into the labyrinth solo.

It’s probably hopeless to try and remain an adventurer.

“There is no help for it, we must express our gratitude for just being able to save my life.”

After that, Sai turned my way to talk.

“Because of that, even though I’m terribly sorry can you wait on the payment for a little while? I can only give you this for now.”

Saying so, Sai presented the gold coins gotten from Selva’s treasure warehouse.

“Paying the reward all together is fine. For the time being, consider it as a loan.”

“That’s not what you said before!!”

The reward is 6 gold coins. After discussing it with Sai in the wagon it was

decided on.

Although I feel that it is a little too much, but there is no such fool who would usually go to a labyrinth for a rescue, so I don't know what I should charge.

At first it was an even larger sum of money but it was obvious that they couldn't afford that amount.

That being the case, they should be able to pay off this amount of money steadily little by little.

"Don't misunderstand, Sai. I'm only delaying the repayment of your debt and intend to take a little interest."

"However, even if you say interest..."

The talk of interest has been handled properly. It's a fixed amount of 12 silver coins per year.

The principal won't increase so long as they don't forget to pay a silver coin every month.

"Work diligently to at least pay off the interest every month"

"...Sorry for troubling you. I'll try to repay you as quickly as possible. Absolutely."

Sai, as a dog beastman that possessed a strong sense of duty, declared with an earnest face.

Sai and Yakuu left the guild at once in order to search for their next job.

"Well, what should we do?~"

When I am looking at whether or not there is any requests that seem interesting...

| Escort the trading caravan to the town of Brett Client: Alchemist Guild |

I discovered such a request.

"Brett? Can contact be made with them now?"

I could recall hearing about Brett from that natural Hero and suffering Shinto Priests disaster of an event.

A little curiosity sprung up so I decided to visit Giren's office.

"Oh, You?"

Gieren responds without surprise as he has gotten accustomed to my uninvited visits.

"I saw a request to the town of Brett, is it already safe?"

"Ah, is that so? Frankly, we just got news from them two days ago. Those guys with sharp ears have already left."

Right. While I was out of town, communication with Brett seem to be restored.

"I'm told, the Hero candidate played a large part by laying waste to a 1000 monsters."

Lux, huh. However, 1000? As expected.

"Nevertheless, by the church's report various things have to happen so he is still the Hero candidate."

I think it's the fight between Seira and Baara on which [Holy Woman] will select the hero.

Personally, I'd recommend Baara.

"Is that so? Thank you the info was helpful."

"Don't mention it. Are you going to go to Brett?"

"I don't have any plans to at present."

"I see. Please inform me if you travel to another town even if it's not Brett. It helps a little."

"To say something like that, do you also have some plans or something?"

Giren shakes his head. He must not have had any ulterior motive.

"Well, ok, see you later."

I leave the office and head towards the Alchemist Guild next.

I asked for Frank at the reception desk and he showed up at the waiting room about 10 minutes later.

"Hey, hey Hibiki-kun. And Amy-san welcome. The other person was also in the lord's castle, recently."

"Hello, Frank-san."

"What kind of business do you have today? Come to think of it, is Latia-san not here?"

"Did you submit an escort request to the Adventurer Guild for a trading caravan."

"Ahh, that's right. Because trade with Brett has restarted, we want to immediately spread the [White Porcelain Ware]."

Is it as I thought? Usually, the Alchemist Guild sells goods to the Merchant Guild at wholesale. The purpose of not doing it now might be to monopolize the market.

"Is that so? Then more [White Porcelain Ware] than before is necessary?"

"Th-that's right. I was just going to talk to you about increasing the production."

Presently, we supply the store with two sets of round plates per week. Latia and the goblins understand the process up til the delivery of goods.

Production increase might not be too difficult as long as the white clay can be prepared.

"I see. How much do you need?"

"For now, I'd like as much as possible to be made for the next 2 weeks. At that time is the departure of the trading caravan."

"That is fairly slow?"

"Right now, it's because there are very few adventurers that can act as guards. We can't travel unless enough can be arranged."

"That must be difficult. Then, I'll make the delivery in 2 weeks. I think a total of 10 sets of the usual products can be safely supplied."

"Ahh, I'll entrust it to you. I'll have to reconsider the list of cargo."

I part from Frank and walk through the town. I decided to do some shopping

before returning to the goblin village.

“Well now, where should I go?”

“Ah, hey, [Annihilation].”

From behind me, I hear a voice that I’ve been hearing a lot lately.

“Uncle Stew. What’s the matter?”

“There is a guy who wants to meet you at the Adventurer Guild. He requested that I go find you.”

“Although I was at the guild this morning?”

“Well then you must of just missed each other.”

“Who is waiting?”

“Who knows? Maybe he wants to hear about the demon incident. Many people have been loitering around the [Seal Stone of Sobbing].”

Since it can’t be helped, I return where I came from.

Well, what kind of guy is there?

Chapter 70

Immediately after returning to the guild, I knew who was searching for me.

That person burst out into a massive laughter after seeing the [Seal Stone of Sobbing].

"Ah ha haa, hee hee hee, my stomach, ow. You, what are ya doin'?"

Everybody close by was looking at us. Reluctantly, I decided to greet him.

"Eh!? Ohh, you are [Annihilation]-san?"

"That's right. I'm sometimes called that."

"Sup, call me Yuuki Kurono. Best regards, senpai."

Kurono? Senpai?

"You, it can't be!?"

"Yup, I'm from the same place as senpai. I'm actin' as the [Demon King] here~."

Going so far to declare that.... I check on his status.

Kurono Yuuki Lv. ??? 15 years old

Demon King

Divine Protection of ???

Effect: ?????

Divine Protection of ???

Effect: ????

Divine Protection of ???

Effect: ????

Divine Protection of ???

Effect: ????

Skills

【Demon King】

Standing above all the demons.

Status becomes the strongest of all demons.

【Camouflage】

Status can be hidden at one's discretion.

Less effective against those superior than oneself.

【???】

??? of Oneself ??? is done.

Efficiency of ??? is based on level.

【???】

【???】

I grasped very little except that this guy really was a [Demon King].

“So, what business does the Demon King have here? ”

“As one would ‘spect of senpai. Don’ be alarmed. This time, I came to watch the demons’ ambition get crushed by [Annihilation]-san.”

I’m being called senpai because I was summoned earlier.

He gives me the impression that he doesn’t find the demon king’s throne very comfortable.

“No, I was seriously feeling nervous. This whole area had been completely overrun with monsters.”

"I recognize this ain't some dream, and I'm now currently investigatin' various things mah'self. But even so, I'm aware that I'm the demon king. Afterwards, I am hopin' there is a clear condition."

"A clear condition?"

"Yup, I have been summoned here as the demon king, then does that mean that I'm supposed to destroy the humans? So, is senpai the enemy, or what?"

The demon king seems delighted to talk to someone.

"What is senpai's victory condition? I hope it's not suppressin' the demon king?"

"I didn't receive any explanation after arriving in this world."

"Seriously? I've been able to get things like [YES] or [NO] replies to questions in mah' head."

"I've just recently been able to gain that skill."

"Ugh, sounds like it's been difficult."

I found out later, but it seems there was a temple just behind the place where I appeared.

How have I came so far without a tutorial? Without wanting to know that information?

By the way, is my victory condition the subjugation of the [Demon King]?

Looks like it's different.

Then, the destruction of humanity?

[NO]

Excellent, it seems to be different.

"By the way, it's not good to trust those [YES] or [NO] replies too much, it's really inconvenient when they do not ansa' and return some [· · ·] reply."

Indeed, it does not seem to say a lie, but it is not completely an ally, huh?

"And 'cause of that, I had to think about demonification items, ya know. I can't creep into the mansions of nobles or important people that gots some

detector. It's seriously impossible, gah."

Even for that S*ke it is unreasonable. Makes me want to rage. (ED Darknari: We believe this to be a 'Solid Snake' reference) Demonification items aren't covered by the detector, and the [Demon Killer Drug] is also not very effective.

If they can possess strong humans they can get an even stronger power, it's a strategy that seems entirely full of good points.

"Fo' now, it's good that it does not seem likely to develop into a battle wit' senpai."

"But, aren't you going to destroy humanity?"

"Hm, who knows? I'm fine wit' the life I've gots right now."

"Yet a hero might come for you?"

"Uh huh, that seems to be right. And 'cause I was chosen by god to be the demon king, some hero was also likely chosen. But that hero could stir up trouble to make himself look good."

Sounds likely, if the gods that gave Yuuki and me divine protections are similar that could be true.

"For now, because my victory condition needs investigating I'll also be living my life normally."

"Thanks, well fo' now I'll return home fo' today. Since I also saw the state of that idiot minion."

He shot a smirk at the [Seal Stone of Sobbing] stone.

"Oh, see you later."

"Yes, I'll come on down again."

Somehow by the end of the conversation we were talking like we were friends, but the other party was the [Demon King].

I should be very cautious.

Well, what to do after this.

A week after meeting the demon king. A different problem from the demon

king occurred.

“A fight?”

“Yes, the village goblins and the labyrinth goblins are quarrelling.”

Latia came to sadly report it.

Apparently, the labyrinth goblins aren’t listening to Lalu’s orders.

I’m told that the labyrinth goblins claim that since they pledged allegiance to me that they aren’t under Lalu’s supervision.

“Hm. What should I do.”

“That’s easy, you just have to let them fight it all out once.”

“That’s truly...”

“Men come to an understanding after beating up each other. Women become friends over sweets.”

It’s a little violent but there’s some truth to it. However, I still won’t give permission for a fight.

There must be something else if you are just letting off steam.

“That’s right, let’s play baseball.”

Since the goblin village has grown large, only a few get to participate. The rest get to enjoy being spectators.

Yeah, this might be a good idea.

I had the goblins assemble on the plaza at once.

First, I’ll explain the rules of baseball.

For now, I’ll omit the difficult rules and give a simple explanation.

After the explanation, before long I watched them play.

It will be faster to remember if they try it than by explaining it with words.

Pitcher and a suitable defense.

And then, batters are all that’s needed to play baseball.

The goblins immediately picked up the game and got into it.

After spending 3 days teaching them baseball, I assemble everyone at the plaza and announce that we are holding a baseball tournament.

Each of the 9 starting players were selected as well as alternatives in case of injury.

“We will rectify the unfair cold reception of the new members!!”

While I was unaware, Frey had settled into a coach position.

Certainly Frey is a newcomer, but did she feel that way? I felt like she was on good terms with Lalu and the others.

“Do you really think you can beat us who have been with master longer!!”

Apparently, Amy seems to be taking charge of the senior team.

No, the one who has been with me the longest is Ayla.

However, Ayla is having fun playing catch with Ruby.

“Here goes, Ruby.”

Ruby is pretty good at catching the ball with it's face.

Now, let's play ball.

Chapter 71

Thereupon 3 days after the announcement, the match took place. This time, I made a large open space in the forest expressly to play baseball. I made tiered audience seatings around the edge large enough to hold all the village goblins.

It took quite a bit of manpower(?) to prepare these in only three days.

Top of the first inning.

Senior team leading.

1st batter Musashi.

He skillfully captured the first pitch for a two-base hit. As expected of Musashi.

The 2nd and 3rd ended with continuous strikeouts, but then the fourth, Lalu, appeared.

“Knock it out, Lalu.” (Amy)

Coach Amy yelled out her instructions.

First pitch, a high ball.

Second pitch is a low ball this time.

Apparently, it looks like he can not smoothly get a strike with him having a different height from ordinary goblins.

The third ball is an easy ball. No way would Lalu overlook that.

He swings the bat compactly, hitting a long hit over the infielders’ heads. When Lalu reaches the second base, Musashi already reached home.
A cheer rises up from the audience.

With this, it’s 1–0.

The 5th batter couldn’t follow after Lalu and struck out. With this it’s three outs.

Bottom of the first inning.

The offensive of the newcomer team.

Let’s tell the labyrinth goblins’ story here.

Those who lived in the labyrinth frequently battle with other monsters. Therefore, weak individuals are culled and inevitably the strong individuals are left. Also, many individuals have undergone their own evolution under the special environment called a labyrinth.

Now then, the 1st batter is a goblin thief. Though he is not powerful this fellow is light-footed, he seems to go for a hit by holding his bat short. The first pitch, he missed a strike. Second pitch, a ball. It seems that he is firmly looking at the ball. The third pitch is somewhat low, a magnificent meatball. He made the best of the swiftness he was proud of and easily made first base.

“Alright, good!! Continue!!” (Frey)

As an auspicious start, coach Frey also seems to be unable to hide her excitement.

The audience seats of the newcomer team were also excited.

The second batter ended with a strikeout and the third batter somehow got on base.

With this, it's 1 out with 1st and 3rd bases.

Then next is the labyrinth goblins' leader, the goblin fighter Hamon goes to the plate.

First pitch, a slightly off ball.

Second pitch, right down the middle, he missed a strike.

I wonder if he is nervous, to not be able to respond to such an ideal ball.

Third pitch, though he grasped the dead center of the high ball, regrettably he fouled.

Two strikes, one ball. I guess this here is the theory of missing to take a look at the ball.

The tense-filled fourth pitch, the ball just barely entered the strike zone and he hit it with his bat.

The ball escapes through the infield between first and second base.

Hamon stops at first base. They got back one point and are tied.

“That’s good!! As it is we can make a comeback!!” (Frey)

The tension of coach Frey has also reached a climax. It’s still the first inning. So will you possess that until the final inning (7th inning)? (Darknari: highschool baseball is seven innings)

However, it ends with two continuous strikeouts without any effect from the rooting of the coach.

With this, it’s 1–1.

The 2nd and 3rd inning continued on without movement, it began to show the aspect of a pitcher’s battle.

There was movement in the fourth inning, surprisingly the opportunity was given by an ordinary goblin.

1 out, 2nd base, batter is Lalu.

“Here, one point, one point is good, so let’s take it!!” (Amy)

Amy hangs out from the player seats and shouts out to Lalu.

“Everyone looks to be enjoying themselves? Master.” (Ayla)

Satisfied with playing catch with Ruby, next to me Ayla sits by herself in a spot similar to a live seat.

To me who is exposed to direct sunlight Ruby’s body, which is cool, is so soothing.

“The goblins seem to be enjoying it, is this a success?” (Ayla)

“Yes, a huge success.” (Hibiki)

When happily chatting with Ayla...

Freeze, the exhilarating sound of cheers arises from the audience sitting.

“Go~!! Stretch~!!” (Amy)

“Center!! If you can make it in time!!” (Frey)

Since there is no fence in this open space, it becomes an out if the outfielders catch the ball.

And, in the center is a light-footed goblin thief. It is a different individual from the one who hit the previous time.

Though he steadily catches up with the ball with a great foot speed, but unfortunately the ball crosses the border between the open space and the forest.

“UOOOOOooo”

Lalu's 2 run home run.

With this, it's 3–1.

Amy nods calmly with a *mm*. The coach is getting used to her position.

“It's amazing. As expected of Lalu.” (Ayla)

“Ah, that guy can do anything.” (Hibiki)

Following Lalu, the 5th batter also goes to base, but it does not lead to a score and after 3 outs they change over.

Bottom of the fourth inning...

The batter is Hamon.

First pitch, ball. Wary of the previous at bat he toned down.

Second pitch, this is also a ball.

Third pitch, he hit with the bat so that the ball that was thrown a little low may be scooped up.

“Alright, good Hamon!!” (Frey)

The ball goes over the infielders' heads and falls onto the ground. Center picks up the ball in a hurry, but Hamon has already reached the 2nd base.

The following batter is struck out...

1 out and the 6th in the batting order has turned to the goblin thief who was defending center.

For some reason Frey is sending hand signs.

Though I don't recall even teaching such a thing.

First pitch, the batter shows a bunting stance.

Apparently, the strategy to send Hamon to the 3rd base is by bunting.

The goblin thief kills the power well and the bunt succeeds.

Apparently, the pitcher seems to have a handle on the ball.

“You won’t be in time for third base. First base!!” (Amy)

The goblin pitcher passes the ball to first base as soon as he picked up the ball, though whether he heard Amy’s instruction is not known.

Though he runs hard the goblin thief is out.

With this, it’s 2 outs and 3rd base.

The 7th, who stood up to the batter’s box to take the opportunity to tie the game seems like an ordinary goblin.

“A large one isn’t necessary!! Just swing compactly!!” (Frey)

Following the bunt, she made steady instructions which was unlike Frey. Does she want to win this game that much?

The 7th goblin, who receives Frey’s instruction, holds his bat short.

The pitcher throws the ball while worrying about 3rd base.

First pitch, he missed a strike.

Second pitch, low ball.

Third pitch, it’s also a low ball.

1 strike, 2 balls.

Fourth pitch, he made a move on the slightly high ball.

The ball fouls off to the side of 1st base.

The batter is cornered. The pitcher regains a little bit of room.

Fourth pitch, an easy ball is hit, did he relax because he was cornered? It is the just awaited clean hit.

The ball again flows to the side of the 1st base, though this time it is fair. Hamon on 3rd base already begins to run towards home plate.

“Right!!” (Amy)

The batter barely manages to reach the 1st base...

With this, it's 3–2.

The following batter ends in a strikeout, this ends the offense of the bottom of the 4th inning.

The baseball that I know also ends here.

Continuing to the top of the 5th inning, Frey replaced the shortstop.

Goblin → Goblin Mage.

Why a Goblin mage, it is physically inferior than an ordinary goblin? Though everyone thought that, the reason was identified at once.

The ball that the pitcher throws bends with a *kakun*. A breaking ball.
(Darknari: *kakun* is a sfx for losing strength)

"Just a minute!? What is this!?" (Amy)

Amy flared up at Frey, but Frey answers as if it is nothing.

"It is a thing called a breaking ball." (Frey)

"That's a lie!!" (Amy)

Originally, I had taught them the breaking ball but no goblin was able to throw them.

Well, it is natural that the goblins can not throw a breaking ball just a few days after starting baseball.

In other words, does that goblin mage use wind magic?

Amy also seems to have noticed it and is lecturing...

"From the start, there should not be any rule that says using magic is wrong."
(Frey)

Well, of course that's true. My world has no magic to begin with. However, there is certainly no rule saying that you can't use magic. Amy was overcome and withdrew reluctantly, but the offense of this inning ended with three batters and three swings.

It isn't Amy who keeps taking damage here.

Bottom of the 5th inning, Amy also immediately substitutes a player.

Center.

Goblin Elite → Goblin High Mage.

This high mage had evolved before I noticed it. Currently, there is only one of this valuable goblin.

As expected since the numbers are increasing it is not possible to grasp their state in real time.

Sometimes, Lalu comes to me to introduce individuals that evolved. The high mage is one that Lalu noticed and introduced to me.

The power of the high mage's wind magic looks awesome, so when the ball leaves from the pitcher's hand it decelerates or accelerates.

It seems that thing is like the so-called change-up. Moreover since it abruptly bends it is unmanageable.

Frey and Amy are also in a struggle. The offense and defense is reversed from earlier.

Both teams were unable to take measures against the breaking ball and the score did not change up to the bottom of the 6th inning.

With the way things are going, the possibility of ending the last inning scoreless is beginning to rise.

It is Frey who panicked here.

Presently, the score is...

Frey, who realized that she is losing under the current conditions, began negotiations with Amy.

“In the 7th inning, won’t you not use breaking balls?” (Frey)

“You should have said that before we started.” (Amy)

“You also prepared a high mage so are we not even?” (Frey)

“...It can not be helped, I used magic this time there... If we do not use breaking balls, promise not to use them too.” (Amy)

“Okay!! That does not matter.” (Frey)

Both coaches shake hands with each other, then they return to their own dugouts.

Apparently, the negotiation seems to have ended.

However, I feel like nothing can be done about both of their bad faces.

There may still be something.

Top of the 7th inning...

Right after the declaration of the breaking balls being sealed, proper baseball began.

With the current state of breaking balls not being used, the 6th and 7th batters were called out with 2 outs.

The 8th batter walks on base by showing perseverance through the threat, but sadly the 9th batter gets the 3rd out.

I was briefly relieved that it seemed to end without incident, Amy started to move in the bottom of the 7th inning. (Darknari: The author originally had 9th instead, which I think is a typo)

“Player substitution!! For the pitcher, the goblin will be changed, and Ruby will enter!!” (Amy)

The audience becomes noisy. “Ehh!?” With said face Frey looks at Amy. Being called suddenly, Ruby who is on top of my lap shakes and jiggles.

“Ruby is after all a member of the senior team. Rather, it is the most senior person? It is.” (Amy)

That is certainly so. The most senior monster is Ruby.
That? For sure it is a suitable secret weapon for the senior team...

Perhaps, Amy had seen Ayla and Ruby playing catch some time ago.

“Is that alright? Master?” (Ayla)

Ayla came over. Ruby apparently wants to join the baseball game.
Ruby shakes more energetically than before on top of my lap.

“If you want to go Ruby, then go.” (Hibiki)

Ruby head towards the mound gladly after hearing that.
Frey seems to have no objections to Ruby’s participation.
Is she making light of Ruby as an ordinary slime, or is there another reason?

Ruby performs warm-ups on the mound.
It stretches upwards with a *boing* then it stretches sideways with a *bounce*. And

to complete its preparations it finally loosens up its body by repeatedly shivering and trembling.

Ruby starts its pitching practice.

It takes the ball into its body then it stretches itself to beside the 2nd base to store power.

When it releases its body that is tight enough to make a *creak* sound, the ball is shot out at a speed like a cannon with a *booom* sound.

“Gii!?” (Catcher)

The catcher goblin is blown away without any time to scream.
Though he was blown 3 meters away, the ball was firmly placed in the mitt, and somehow or another the goblin also seems to be alive.

“What is thaaat!?” (Frey)

Though Frey is raising her voice similar to a shriek, Amy is calm. It seems to reflect her low estimation of Ruby’s ability.

“The catcher can’t hold it. There’s no help for it. Lalu, you must be the catcher.” (Amy)

“Gi.” (Lalu)

He replies briefly and arrives at the catcher’s position. Lalu somehow managed to catch Ruby’s re-fired cannon like bullet ball.
As expected of Lalu.

The pitching practice also ends. Play restart.

However, there is no such goblin that can hit the bullet ball from earlier, all of them are standing bolt upright.
Just the first batter was walked to the first base with four balls, but it seems it immediately grabbed the knack of it and repeatedly got the batter out with 3 pitches and 3 swings in a blink of an eye for 2 outs.

The goblins that find themselves at-bat did not care about being struck-out, they were just glad to be able to come back alive.

“Time!!” (Frey)

Frey hurriedly calls for a time out. Apparently it seems she will substitute a

player.

However, I wonder if there is a reserve that can hit that bullet ball of Ruby's.

"Batter, change from goblin to the minotaur Minotaro!!" (Frey)

The minotaur Minotaro. The anticipated new monster is the one I made my subordinate in the labyrinth.

"Minotaur Minotaro-oo." (Minotaro)

The minotaur spoke in a whisper. He seems to be able to speak the human language.

Though he did not talk at all in the labyrinth because he was shy and had an introverted personality, he did talk to us on our way back since it was his first time coming out of the labyrinth and so his tension rose.

At that time everybody's faces were most likely amusing, but I also stood blankly, so I don't remember it well.

In Minotaro's hand, who steps up to the plate, is no longer a bat but rather a bat that was cut from an enormous log similar to a club being held. To have such a thing prepared means that they probably intended to have Minotaro participate from the beginning.

With the bat held ready, Minotaro stares intently at Ruby.

Strangely it became a confrontation of the most senior and the most newest of my monster subordinates.

First pitch, Ruby fired off his bullet ball. Minotaro lets the pitch go by without swinging. Strike.

Second pitch, a bullet ball with the same course and the same speed goes by. This time Minotaro swings his bat.

The bat makes a dull *thud* sound when it comes into contact with the ball. The ball crosses over the foul line besides 1st base and disappears.

"You hit that ball back!?" (Amy)

Amy has a startled look on her face. A joyful look arises in Frey's face.

Third pitch, once again like before a ball with the same course flies by. Somehow it feels a little slower than before.

The wind from Minotaro's powerful swing seems to reach over here.

“B-moo!?” (Minotaro)

However, the ball flew right behind him. Apparently, it seems that the bullet ball was a breaking ball.

The ball rotated at a high speed in Ruby's body and materializes into a changing ball due to the natural air resistance.

Minotaro taking a blow from seeing that frightening change for the first time is a considerable thing.

“Isn't that foul play!? Did you not say that breaking balls would not be used!!”
(Frey)

“I said using ...magic... for breaking balls will not be used.” (Amy)

Frey has been coaxed. And the audience calling out “Hurry up!” is tremendous.

Fourth pitch, breaking ball. Foul.

Fifth pitch, breaking ball. Foul.

Sixth pitch, breaking ball. Foul.

With this, it's the seventh pitch.

I wonder if fatigue has accumulated from consecutively pitching breaking balls it is unfamiliar with, the balls that were shot had a somewhat dull change.

Minotaro captures the ball dead center without missing it and blows it out of the field.

Though the outfielder earnestly chases after it, the ball falls completely into the forest.

Excited cheers well up. Minotaro and the other batter slowly go around the bases.

“Alright, with this it's our win!!” (Frey)

Frey expresses joy through her whole body.

The moment that Minotaro tried to step onto the home plate...

“Guugaaaaa.”

Something approaches center field from the direction the ball flew.

“Ogres!? And there’s 10 of them!?” (Hibiki)

On the head of the ogre running in front is a huge bump. Apparently, Minotaro’s home run ball hit it directly on the head.

The goblins defending the outfield made a mad-dash towards me.

“Why did this happen?” (Hibiki)

Though I say that, I start the combat preparations, but Minotaro and Ruby are already dealing with them one at a time.

Lalu also has issued instructions to the goblins in the audience seats.

Apparently, Hamon also seems to be cooperating with this.

In the blink of an eye, the ogres are surrounded and crushed.

It seems I don’t get a turn.

The battle with the ogres was settled with surprising swiftness.

The goblins, whom at 10 or even a 100 to 1 would by all rights be defeated, have on the contrary easily finished off the ogres.

“What? Tis as I hath said after all, was it not?” (Zir)

Zir muttered disgustedly after showing up to the baseball ground in a nightgown when the sun was starting to sink.

Before my eyes the goblins are celebrating their victory and embracing shoulders without regard about whether they are seniors or newcomers.